## Aaron Neville "To Make Me Wgo I Am"

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I've walked through this world sometimes without a friend

My life has been up and down, been close to an end But I've been through the mill And I've paid my dues Walked so many miles in different peoples shoes

But I've been through the fire
And I've walked in the rain
I've felt the joy and endured the pain

Once I was a schemer
But I always was a dreamer
But it took me who I was and where I've been
To make me who I am

I've met a lot of lost souls in the bowels of hell Traveled some crooked roads, got some stories yet to tell

I've shot up with the junkie, in piss stench halls Broken bread with the devil, fallen on my knees to God Some days I was blessed, some nights I was damned But I always tried to lend a helping hand

Once I was a deceiver
Not I am a believer
But it took me who I was and where I've been
To make me who I am

Oh, I've seen the little children, all strung out on dope No one to care about them, living without hope But I've been lucky that I always had a song I'll sing it with compassion, to try to right the wrong.

Once my life was wretched But why should I regret it Cuz, it took me who I was, and where I've been To make me who I am

## Speech:

This is dedicated to my friends in jail For my Brother Jake who had to ride the rail For my friend Roonie and Melvin, who were so dear
They were so misunderstood
But I wish they were still here
To hear this song I sing from my heart
They're forever in my soul, even though we had to part

Once I was a deceiver
Not I am a believer
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