

Emmylou Harris

"It's A Hard Life Wherever You Go/Abraham Martin"

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(Nancy Griffith)

I am a backseat driver from america
They drive to the left on falls road
And the man at the wheels name is Shamus
We pass a the child on a corner he knows.

And shamus says now what chance has that kid got
And I say from the back I don't know
He says there's barbed wire at all of these exits
There ain't no place in Belfast for that kid to go.

And it's a hard life, it's a hard life
It's a very hard life, it's a hard life wherever you go
And we poison our children with hatred
And the hard life is all that they know.

--- Instrumental ---

At the dairyline in Chicago
A fat man in front of me
He's calling black people trash to his children
He's the only trash here I see.

And I'm thinking this man wears a white hood
In the night when his children should sleep
But they'll slip to their windows and see him
They'll think that white hood's all they need.

And it's a hard life, it's a hard life
It's a very hard life, it's a hard life wherever you go
And we poison our children with hatred
And the hard life is all that they know.

--- Instrumental ---

I was a child of the sixties
When dreams could be held through tears
With Disney and Cronkite and Martin Luther
And I believed, I believed, I believed.

