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 belived, I believed, I believed. Now I'm a backseat driver from America And I'm not at the wheel of control And I am guilty, I am worn, I am the root of all evil And I can't drive on the left side of the road.

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.

And there ain't no place in this world for these kids to go

'Cause it's a hard life wherever you go...

Abraham, Martin and John (Richard Holler)

Has anybody here seen my old friend Abraham
Can you tell me where he's gone
He freed a lotta people but it seems the good die
young
I just looked around and he's gone.

Has anybody here seen my old friend Martin
Can you tell me where he's gone
He freed a lotta people but it seems the good die
young
I just looked around and he's gone.

Has anybody here seen my old friend John
Can you tell me where he's gone
He freed a lotta people but it seems the good die
young
I just looked around and he's gone.

Didn't you love the things they stood for Didn't they try to find some good In you and me and we'll be free Someday soon it's gonna be one day.

Has anybody here seen my old friend Bobby can you tell me where he's gone I thought I saw him walking up over the hill With Abraham and Martin and John...

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