## Grateful Dead "Visions Of Johanna"

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Ain't it just like the night to play tricks
When you're tryin' to be so quiet?
We sit here stranded
Though we're all doin' our best to deny it
And Louise holds a handful of rain
Tempting you to defy it

Lights flicker from the opposite loft In this room the heat pipes just cough The country music station plays soft But there's nothing, really nothing to turn off

Just Louise and her lover So entwined And these visions of Johanna That conquer my mind

In the empty lot where the ladies play Blindman's bluff with the keychain And the all night girls they whisper of Escapades out on the "D" train

We can hear the night watchman Click his flashlight Ask himself if it's him or them It's insane

Louise, she's all right, she's just near She's delicate and seems like the mirror But she just makes it all too concise and too clear That Johanna's not here

The ghost of electricity Howls in the bones of her face Where these visions of Johanna Have now taken my place

Now, little boy lost
He takes himself so seriously
He brags of his misery
He likes to live dangerously
And when bringing her name up

He speaks of a farewell kiss to me

He's sure got a lotta gall
To be so useless and all
Muttering small talk at the wall
While I'm in the hall

Oh, how can I explain? It's so hard to get on And these visions of Johanna They kept me up past the dawn

Inside the museums
Infinity goes up on trial
Voices echo, 'This is what
Salvation must be like after a while'
But Mona Lisa musta had the highway blues
You can tell by the way she smiles

See the primitive wallflower freeze When the jelly faced women all sneeze Hear the one with the mustache say "Jeeze, I can't find my knees"

Oh, jewels and binoculars Hang from the head of the mule But these visions of Johanna They make it all seem so cruel

The peddler now speaks to the countess Who's pretending to care for him Sayin', "Name me someone that's not a parasite And I'll go out and say a prayer for him"

But like Louise always says
"You can't look at much, can you man?"
As she, herself, prepares for him

And Madonna, she still has not showed We see this empty cage now corrode Where her cape of the stage once had flowed The fiddler, he now steps to the road

He writes every thing's been returned which was owed On the back of the fish truck that loads While my conscience explodes

The harmonicas play
The skeleton keys and the rain
And these visions of Johanna
Are now all that remain

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