

Jeffrey Steele "Twenty Years Ago"

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20 years ago
Jeffrey Steele

I was at that smart ass time of my life
I'd pick a fight just to pick a fight
He said black I said white
If he took one side I took the other side
Dinner table we sat around was
More like a battleground
Where I lost more times than I won
Wouldn't learn til later on
He was always preachin about his past
I just kept screamin' come on dad

That was 20 years ago you don't know me at all
Trying to talk to you is like talking to a wall
Yea you gave me my life but its my life to live
And maybe I don't wanna live it like you did
20 years ago

He was built from blue collar sweat and blood
Square jaw and a crew cut a purple heart a Viet vet
And he'd tell you every chance he'd get
Always runnin' down my rock & roll
My friends, my hair, and my clothes
Til it all got out of control
And one night it finally came to blows
That was just enough to get me gone
I couldn't wait to prove him wrong

20 years ago I struck out on my own
He couldn't tell me nothin'
I didn't already know
Yea I was on my way
So what the hell did I care
With my old man and his gray hair
Thought about the road I chose
20 years ago

(spoken)

I left as fast as the leaves fell that autum I never looked
back and I never once called him

But every time I talked to moma I wondered if he was
there
Or if he even cared I figured I walked out on him and
the course of our love
Had run moma said no no you listen to me son he's a
stubborn man and he won't give in
He believes what he believes and you're just like him
And I could tell by her voice there was something
wrong she broke down
and said he ain't got long So I caught the next plane
home thought about all the years gone And how my
pride had let so much
time go by ran up those stairs and I stood by his bed
and cried

20 years ago I thought I knew it all
but tryin to talk to me is like talking to a wall
Yea thought I was a man but actin' like I did
But all I want right now is just to be your kid
And just before my dad gave up the ghost
He took my hand and said son let it go
That was 20 years ago
20 years ago

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