Joni Mitchell "Nathan La Franeer"

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I hired a coach to take me from confusion to the plane And though we shared a common space I know I'll never meet again

The driver with his eyebrows furrowed in the rear-view mirror

I read his name and it was plainly written Nathan La Francer

I asked him would he hurry
But we crawled the canyons slowly
Through the buyers and the sellers
Through the burglar bells and the wishing wells
With gangs and girly shows
The ghostly garden grows

The cars and buses bustled through the bedlam of the day

I looked through window-glass at streets and Nathan grumbled at the gray

I saw an aging cripple selling Superman balloons The city grated through chrome-plate, the clock struck slowly half-past-noon

Through the tunnel tiled and turning
Into daylight once again I am escaping
Once again goodbye
To symphonies and dirty trees
With parks and plastic clothes
The ghostly garden grows

He asked me for a dollar more, he cursed me to my face

He hated everyone who paid to ride and share his common space

I picked my bags up from the curb and stumbled to the

Another man reached out his hand, another hand reached out for more

And I filled it full of silver And I left the fingers counting And the sky goes on forever Without meter maids and peace parades You feed it all your woes The ghostly garden grows You feed it all your woes The ghostly garden grows

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