

## **Mat Kearney**

### **"Rochester"**

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i was born in rochester to a book making man  
had a fake cigar shop with the games on in the back  
see them coming and going letting it ride on thorough  
breads  
the police chief and tom hall wondering what was the  
spread

i carried rich mans bags through brier trying to chase  
down a little white ball  
learned that any soft place wasn't good for me at all  
daddy'd come home fired up looking for some sort of  
release  
he'd beat the hell of timmy and timmy'd beat the hell  
out of me

i would hop the fence out to those government fields  
run till there was nothing more to feel  
lying there watching planes just disappear  
knowing one day i'm gonna fly on out of here

the same police chief came knocking my first freshman  
day  
put my daddy in handcuffs and his picture on the front  
page  
took everyone of his suits and all my dignity  
i'd walk the halls of irodiquie looking for any punk to  
set me free

i would hop the fence out to those government fields  
run till there was nothing more to feel

lying there watching planes just disappear  
knowing one day i'm gonna fly on out of here

got that call to vietnam just like everyone else i knew  
so scared of the hand grenades through them farther  
then any other troop  
came home like an iron fist and timmy tried to take my  
keys  
ripped open his from pocket that was the last time he  
touched me

moved to an island out west and up to Breckenridge  
met a mermaid on a glass boat and she promised me  
some kids  
bought a house in oregon where you could touch both  
of the walls  
had a son named benjamin and i was so scared of it all

well benjamin walked in the front room where i was  
cutting up my hash  
looked into his deep blue eyes wondering why i'd been  
so mad  
flushed a quarter pound down the drain praying for the  
mercy to confess  
trying to rip the boy from Rochester right out of my  
chest

were gonna walk right out into those heavenly fields  
run like there was no more time to steal  
my three boys and the grace of god revealed  
knowing one day you're gonna take me out of here  
knowing one day you're gonna take me out of here

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