

## Matthew Good

# "The Vancouver National Anthem"

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### "The Vancouver National Anthem"

Out of the alleys, our needle strewn fields  
Into the sunlight that the brochures reveal  
Like snakes come for rabbits and rabbits for meals  
Where the oar and the axe flies

Well this is our story (stick to it) but it ain't the truth  
Cause the truth's just for liars that need an excuse  
Around here love's a gangster and charity's the proof  
Where God deals on Sunday's under a rain burning  
roof

It's five blocks a universe and aliens for each  
Like invisible ghettos of priviledge and grief  
And pinned up between them the carrion fly  
Living off skeletons of recycled lives

This is the place you find out  
Well this is the way you find out

We all live downtown  
Pay two even, no parking  
Live with a clown  
Step over ourselves  
We all live downtown  
Pay in blood, no parking  
Sleep on the ground  
Step over ourselves

We all live downtown  
We all die downtown  
Step over ourselves

Well this is our story (stick to it) but it ain't the truth  
Cause the truth's just for liars that need an excuse  
For a king crown a banker, the queen crown a noose  
Like heirs to a graveyard where the dirt's always loose  
It's five blocks a universe and aliens for each  
Like invisible ghettos of priviledge and grief  
And pinned up between them the carrion fly  
Picking off skeletons under a big northern sky

This is the place where you find out  
Well this is the way you find out

We all live downtown  
We all die downtown  
Step over ourselves

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