

## **The Nightwatchman "Maximum Firepower"**

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This one's for the shoeshine boy and the farmer in debt  
Each string is barbed wire, each chord is a threat  
This blues guy I met that never had a hit  
Said, 'You don't gotta be loud, son, to be heavy as  
shit?

Well, I'm the triggerman, baby, tonight I'll prove  
That this machine here, well, it kills fascists too  
And don't be surprised if the 'Sermon on the Mount'  
The next time is delivered in a little coffee house

'Cause somebody here's gotta let them know  
I doubt it's me but here I go  
I hit the button, tape started to roll  
Yeah, the song's got fire, it's got no soul

There's a lonely stretch of blacktop between here and  
home  
Drop down into the valley, piano playin' in the living  
room  
When you see the white barn you'll know the journey's  
through  
My dog's barking in the backseat 'cause he knows it too

You'll need a fake passport and fix your disguise  
And don't fire, sugar, 'til you see the whites of their  
eyes  
I turned the other cheek but now I'm through  
The skin you're in makes choices for you

I was checking off names and I came late to dinner  
Seems the slices of pie keep getting thinner and  
thinner  
Brothers and sisters, rejoice and repent  
The landlord's dead, you can keep the rent

You got twelve fine friends but one of 'em's rotten  
There's a hole out back, ain't got no bottom  
Forty days in the wilderness, forty sleepless nights  
I'm confused, half blind and sure I'm right

There's a lonely stretch of blacktop between here and

home  
Drop down into the valley, piano playin' in the living  
room  
When you see the white barn you'll know the journey's  
through  
My dog's barking in the backseat 'cause he knows it too

Officer, please, I won't be long  
Called the radio station, requested this song  
Now I had my doubts about what I knew  
So I turned it up and then it sounded true

Kiss the ring if the Queen will let you  
But come over the fence and the dogs will get you  
On a rope hung the traitor, on a hook hung the meat  
You and me are missing persons 'til we're counted in  
the streets

So seize the time and storm the tower  
And come correct with maximum firepower  
For the sins of the father, the son, he must pay  
The Nightwatchman giveth and he taketh away

Thought hard about this next line, pretty sure it's true  
If you take a step towards freedom it'll take two steps  
towards you  
So, mister, I ain't scared and, mister, I ain't worried  
'Cause on that lonely stretch of blacktop I sit as judge  
and jury

There's a lonely stretch of blacktop between here and  
home  
Drop down into the valley, piano playin' in the living  
room  
When you see the white barn you know the journey's  
through  
My dog's barking in the backseat 'cause he knows it too

The clock strikes the hour, tonight we ride  
The clock strikes the hour, tonight we ride  
The clock strikes the hour, tonight we ride  
You've got three more seconds to choose sides

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