

Patti Smith

"Blue Poles"

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Mother, as I write, the sun dissolves
Blood life streaming, 'cross my hand
And these words, these words
Hope dashed immortal hope
Hope streaking the canvas sky

Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write
Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write

We joined the long caravan
Hungry, dreaming, going west
Just for work, just to get a job
And we never got lucky

We just forged on, and the dust
The endless dust, like a plague
It covered everything
Hal fell, with the fever
And mother I did, what I could

Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write
Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write

We prayed, we prayed for rain
I never wanted, to see the sun again
All my dresses, you made by hand
We left behind, on the road,
Hal died, in my arms
We buried him, by the river

Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write
Blue poles infinitely winding
As I write, as I write, I write

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