

## **Robbie Robertson**

# **"Straight Down The Line"**

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From the Chitlin' Circuit to the Peppermint Lounge  
Been run off more than once for goin' underground  
Where I met an old blues-man with a walking cane  
He wore a stripe suit and used someone else's name

He said, "Son I've seen it all  
And it's not what you think"  
He said, "There's some tough choices to be made"  
Then he took a little drink and I heard him say

I do not play no rock and roll  
Would not be moved to sell my soul  
The demons are out tonight  
Rock you sinners

Whoa, the demons are out tonight  
Roll you sinners  
Straight down the line

Passed an old church on my way back East  
Heard a gospel choir singing of war and peace  
I was deeply moved so I stepped inside  
I just stood in the back where I could easily hide

A woman in a black robe stood up  
And pointed me out  
She said, "Hallelu, Hallelu, Lord"  
Then she began to shout, this is what she said

I do not play no rock and roll  
Would not be moved to sell my soul  
The demons are out tonight  
Rock you sinners

Oh, the demons are out tonight  
Roll you sinners  
Straight down the line

Now he could croon a tune as good as anyone  
And if he sings a song then that song's been sung  
Some things have tradition, some shine like new  
Some things you can't change no matter what you do

He said, "My friend, I've done it all"  
Either for love or money  
And if I laugh at your jokes  
Oh, that means his jokes are funny  
And one more thing

I do not play no rock and roll  
Would not be moved to sell my soul  
The demons are out tonight  
Rock you sinners

Oh, the demons are out tonight  
Roll you sinners  
Straight down the line

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