

Shawn Mullins "Casey's Last Ride"

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Casey joins the hollow sounds of silent people walking
down
The stairway to the subway, in the shadows down below
Following their footsteps through the neon-darkened
corridors
Of silent desperation, never speakin' to a soul

The poison air he's breathin' has the dirty smell of
dying
'Cause it's never seen the sunshine and never felt the
rain
But Casey minds the arrows and ignores the fatal
echoes
Twistin' on the turnstiles and the rattle of his chains

"Oh" she said, "Casey, it's been so long since I've seen
you"
"Here" she said, "Just a kiss to make a body smile"
"See" she said, "I've put on new stockings just to please
you"
And, "Lord" she said, "Casey, can you only stay a
while?"

Casey leaves the underground and stops inside the
Golden Crown
For something wet to wash away the chill that's in his
bone
Seeing his reflection in the lives of all the lonely men
Who reach for any thing they can to keep from goin'
home

Standin' in the corner Casey drinks his pint of bitter
Never glancing in the mirror at the people passing by
And he stumbles as he's leaving and he wonders if the
reason
Is the beer that's in his belly or the tear that's in his eye

"Oh" she said, "I suppose you seldom think about me"
And, "Now" she said, "Now that you've a family of your
own"
"Still" she said, "It's so blessed good to feel your body"
And, "Lord" she said, "Casey, it's a shame to be alone"

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