

Dylan Bob

"Brownsville Girl"

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by Bob Dylan and Sam Shepard

Well, there was this movie I seen one time,
About a man riding 'cross the desert and it starred
Gregory Peck.

He was shot down by a hungry kid trying to make a
name for himself.

The townspeople wanted to crush that kid down and
string him up by the neck.

Well, the marshal, now he beat that kid to a bloody pulp
as the dying gunfighter lay in the sun and gasped for
his last breath.

Turn him loose, let him go, let him say he outdrew me
fair and square,

I want him to feel what it's like to every moment face
his death.

Well, I keep seeing this stuff and it just comes a-rolling
in

And you know it blows right through me like a ball and
chain.

You know I can't believe we've lived so long and are
still so far apart.

The memory of you keeps callin' after me like a rollin'
train.

I can still see the day that you came to me on the
painted desert

In your busted down Ford and your platform heels

I could never figure out why you chose that particular
place to meet

Ah, but you were right. It was perfect as I got in behind
the wheel.

Well, we drove that car all night into San Anton'

And we slept near the Alamo, your skin was so tender
and soft.

Way down in Mexico you went out to find a doctor and
you never came back.

I would have gone on after you but I didn't feel like

letting my head get blown off.

Well, we're drivin' this car and the sun is comin' up over
the Rockies,
Now I know she ain't you but she's here and she's got
that dark rhythm in her soul.
But I'm too over the edge and I ain't in the mood
anymore to remember the times when I was your only
man
And she don't want to remind me. She knows this car
would go out of control.

Brownsville girl with your Brownsville curls, teeth like
pearls shining like the moon above
Brownsville girl, show me all around the world,
Brownsville girl, you're my honey love.

Well, we crossed the panhandle and then we headed
towards Amarillo
We pulled up where Henry Porter used to live. He
owned a wreckin' lot outside of town about a mile.
Ruby was in the backyard hanging clothes, she had her
red hair tied back. She saw us come rolling up in a trail
of dust.
She said, "Henry ain't here but you can come on in,
he'll be back in a little while."

Then she told us how times were tough and about how
she was thinkin' of bummin' a ride back to where she
started.
But ya know, she changed the subject every time
money came up.
She said, "Welcome to the land of the living dead." You
could tell she was so broken-hearted.
She said, "Even the swap meets around here are
getting pretty corrupt."

"How far are y'all going?" Ruby asked us with a sigh.
"We're going all the way 'til the wheels fall off and
burn,
'Til the sun peels the paint and the seat covers fade
and the water moccasin dies."
Ruby just smiled and said, "Ah, you know some babies
never learn."

Something about that movie though, well I just can't get
it out of my head
But I can't remember why I was in it or what part I was
supposed to play.
All I remember about it was Gregory Peck and the way
people moved

And a lot of them seemed to be lookin' my way.

Brownsville girl with your Brownsville curls, teeth like
pearls shining like the moon above
Brownsville girl, show me all around the world,
Brownsville girl, you're my honey love.

Well, they were looking for somebody with a
pompadour.

I was crossin' the street when shots rang out.
I didn't know whether to duck or to run, so I ran.
"We got him cornered in the churchyard," I heard
somebody shout.

Well, you saw my picture in the Corpus Christi Tribune.
Underneath it, it said, "A man with no alibi."
You went out on a limb to testify for me, you said I was
with you.
Then when I saw you break down in front of the judge
and cry real tears,
It was the best acting I saw anybody do.

Now I've always been the kind of person that doesn't
like to trespass but sometimes you just find yourself
over the line.
Oh if there's an original thought out there, I could use it
right now.
You know, I feel pretty good, but that ain't sayin' much.
I could feel a whole lot better,
If you were just here by my side to show me how.

Well, I'm standin' in line in the rain to see a movie
starring Gregory Peck,
Yeah, but you know it's not the one that I had in mind.
He's got a new one out now, I don't even know what it's
about
But I'll see him in anything so I'll stand in line.

Brownsville girl with your Brownsville curls, teeth like
pearls shining like the moon above
Brownsville girl, show me all around the world,
Brownsville girl, you're my honey love.

You know, it's funny how things never turn out the way
you had 'em planned.
The only thing we knew for sure about Henry Porter is
that his name wasn't Henry Porter.
And you know there was somethin' about you baby that
I liked that was always too good for this world
Just like you always said there was something about me
you liked that I left behind in the French Quarter.

Strange how people who suffer together have stronger connections than people who are most content.
I don't have any regrets, they can talk about me plenty when I'm gone.
You always said people don't do what they believe in, they just do what's most convenient, then they repent.
And I always said, "Hang on to me, baby, and let's hope that the roof stays on."

There was a movie I seen one time, I think I sat through it twice.
I don't remember who I was or where I was bound.
All I remember about it was it starred Gregory Peck, he wore a gun and he was shot in the back.
Seems like a long time ago, long before the stars were torn down.

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