

## **The Hold Steady**

# **"Cattle and the Creeping Things"**

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They got to the part with the cattle and the creeping things,  
said I'm pretty sure we've heard this one before  
Don't it all end up in some revelation with four guys on  
horses and violent red visions  
Famine and death and pestilence and war?  
I'm pretty sure I heard this one before

You in the corner with a good looking drifter, two cups  
of coffee and ten packs of sugar  
I heard Gideon saw you in Denver, he said you're  
contagious  
Silly rabbit, tripping is for teenagers, murder is for  
murderers and hard drugs are for bartenders  
I think I might have mentioned that before

He's got the pages in his pockets that he ripped out of  
the Bible from his bed stand in the motel  
He likes the part where the traders get chased out from  
the temple

I guess I heard about original sin, I heard the dude  
blamed the chick, I heard the chick blamed the snake  
I heard they were naked when they got busted and I  
heard things ain't been the same since  
You on the streets with a tendency to preach to the  
choir, wired for sound and down with whatever  
I heard Gideon did you in Denver

She's got a cross around her neck that she ripped off  
from a schoolgirl in the subway on a visit to the city  
She likes how it looks on her chest with three open  
buttons  
She likes the part where one brother kills the other, she  
has to wonder if the world ever will recover  
'Cause Cain and Abel seem to still be causing trouble  
She said I was seeing double for three straight days  
after I got born again  
It felt strange but it was nice and peaceful and it really  
pleased me to be around so many people  
Of course, half of them were visions, half of them were  
friends from going through the program with me  
Later on we did some sexy things, took a couple

photographs and carved them into wood reliefs

But that's enough about me  
Come on, tell me how you got down here into Ybor City

He said I got to the part about the exodus  
And up to then I only knew it was a movement of the  
people  
But if small town cops are like swarms of flies and  
blackened foil is like boils and hail  
I'm pretty sure I've been through this before

It seemed like a simple place to score  
And it seemed like a simple place to score  
It seemed like a simple place to score and then some  
old lady came to the door  
And said McKenzie Phillips doesn't live here anymore

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