The Angel of Lyon (Live in St. Louis)

Tom Russell

He had a vision of Anne Marie With a rosary in her hand So it's exit the rainmaker The old gray flannel man With a closet full of business suits He left a letter near the phone It said, "I'm on my way to paradise To see the angel of lyon"And then he caught the train to Brussels He ordered cognac and croissants He made a mental list Of things he owned but didn't want All the buildings, all the real estate The antique glass and stone He'd trade a vow of poverty To see the angel of LyonAnd he sang ave maria Or at least the parts he knew And watched the shadow of the train On the towns that they rolled through And he closed his eyes and he saw two rivers The Rhone and the saone The male and female spirit of The city of LyonThen he waited on the bridge Where they met the year before But the days turned into weeks And then the seasons numbered four And his clothes grew worn and ragged As through that town he roamed Searching every open window For the angel of LyonAnd he sang Ava maria Or at least the parts he knew And watched his shadow on the walls Of the streets that he walked through And he crossed those holy rivers The Rhone and the saone They'd not give up the secret of The angel of LyonThere's a thousand candles burning In the basilica tonight Where sister eve maria Is the keeper of the light

And down a dream of alleyways Walks a saint of rag and bone The madman torn asunder By the angel of lyonAnd he sang ava maria Or at least the parts he knew And watched his shadow on the wall Of the streets that he crawled through And he crossed those holy rivers The Rhone and the saone But they'd not give up the secret of The angel of Lyon

Songwriters TOM RUSSELL, STEVE YOUNGPublished by Lyrics © BMG RIGHTS MANAGEMENT US, LLC

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