Heathen Town

Elvis Costello

They used to call it Sin City, now it's gone way past that
Painting the town and then burning it down, now even that's old hat
Now there's a choir of angels at the fall of Rome
Singing 'Ave Maria' or 'Home Sweet Home'It's just a heathen town
I hear only evil as my tongue is tightened
I used to be God-fearing, now I'm so frightened'Cause the devil will drag you under
By the sharp tail fin of your checkered cab
And I can't sit down, I'm going overboard in this heathen townIt starts as a flirtation and ends up as an expensive habit
With one eye on her place in debtor's prison
And the other on a girl dressed as a rabbit
Now you can live forever, endure fits and starts
The only stake you cannot raise is the one driven through your heartIt's just a heathen town
I hear only evil as my tongue is tightened
I used to be God-fearing, now I'm so frightened'Cause the devil will drag you under
By the sharp tail fin of your checkered cab
And I can't sit down, I'm going overboard in this heathen town

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