

# Highwater - For Charlie Patton

## Bob Dylan

Highwater risin', rising night and day  
All the gold and silver are being stolen away  
Big Joe Turner looking east and west from the dark room of his mind  
He made it to Kansas City, Twelfth Street  
and Vine  
Nothin' standing there  
Highwater everywhere  
Highwater rising the shacks are sliding down  
Folks lose their possessions, the folks are leaving town  
Reformation shook it, broke it, then she hung it on the wall  
Say you dance with whom they tell you to or you don't dance at all  
It's tough out there  
Highwater everywhere  
I got a cravin' love for blazin' speed  
I got a hopped up Mustang Ford  
Jump into the wagon, love  
Throw your panties overboard  
I can write you poems, make a strong man lose his mind  
I'm no pig without a wig, I hope you treat me kind  
Things are breakin' up out there  
Highwater everywhere  
Highwater rising, six inches above my head  
Coffin's dropping in the street like balloons made out of clay  
Water poured into Vicksburg, don't know what I'm gonna do  
Don't reach out for me, she said, can't you see I'm  
drowning too  
It's rough out there  
Highwater everywhere  
Well, George Lewis told the Englishman, the Italian and the Jew  
You can't open up your mind, boys, to every conceivable point of view  
They got Charles Darwin trapped out there on Highway 5  
Judge says to the high sheriff, I want him dead or alive  
Either one, I don't care  
Highwater everywhere  
Well, the cuckoo is a pretty bird, she warbles as she flies  
I'm preachin' the word of God, I'm puttin' out your eyes  
I asked Fat Nancy for someth'n' to eat, she said take it off the shelf  
As great as you are man, you'll never be  
greater than yourself  
I told her I didn't really care  
Highwater everywhere  
I get up in the mornin', I believe I'll dust my broom  
Keepin' away from the women, I'm givin' them lots of room  
Thunder rollin' over Clarksdale, everythin' a lookin' blue  
I just can't be happy, love, unless you're happy too  
It's bad out there  
Highwater everywhere