Stones In the Road

Mary Chapin Carpenter

Advisory - the following lyrics contain explicit language:

When we were young, we pledged allegiance
Every morning of our lives
The classroom rang with children's voices
Under teacher's watchful eyeWe learned about the world around us
At our desks and at dinnertime
Reminded of the starving children

We cleaned our plates with guilty mindsAnd the stones in the road Shone like diamonds in the dust

And then a voice called to us

To make our way back homeWhen I was ten, my father held me

On his shoulders above the crowd

To see a train draped in mourning

Pass slowly through our townHis widow kneeled with all their children

At the sacred burial ground

And the TV glowed that long hot summer

With all the cities burning downAnd the stones in the road

Flew out beneath our bicycle tires

Worlds removed from all those fires

As we raced each other homeAnd now we drink our coffee on the run

We climb that ladder rung by rung

We are the daughters and the sons

And here's the line that's missing The starving children have been replaced

By souls out on the street

We give a dollar when we pass

And hope our eyes don't meetWe pencil in, we cancel out

We crave the corner suite

We kiss your ass, we make you hold

We doctor the receiptAnd the stones in the road

They fly out from beneath our wheels

Another day, another deal

Before we get back homeStones in the road

Leave a mark from whence they came

A thousand points of light or shame Baby, I don't know

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