## Party of God (with Billy Bragg) [Remastered]

## **Natalie Merchant**

In a busy street, a man sits down

Oblivious to the traffic sounds

No chaos, no frenzied shrieking crowd

Thank God their silence, walking heads, bent downCome when they saw us

Called it lethargy

The treadmill turns

There down below their feetShould I pray for an end to come

Quickly, quickly, quickly

Or cross the waves of an angry sea

Risking, risking and braving, braving

The shipwreck and the mutiny assailing, assailing

In a haunted doorway and from the light of day

See another life fall to ruin in pain

False smiles from even children it seems

Landlocked ground for empty and lost dreamsA league against me

I hear him say

It's not worth half the effort

Or the price you payShould I pray for an end to come

Quickly, quickly, quickly

Or should I raise my face to the Heavens above

And tell God, dear God, stop jeering and jeering

As our human frailties and all our failings, are we failing? Pound, pound on an endless street

Again and again the nightmare scene

All strained against the tightened rope

Not one with a lasting lingering hope

There's evidence

Everywhere you see

Put a quarter down at the newsstand

So that you can readShould I pray for an end to come

Quickly, quickly, quickly

Or should I raise my face to the clouds above

Entreating, entreating

Their mercy, some mercyBut as clouds will do, they'll rain down

First gently, gently and sweetly, so sweetly

Until they silence me

With a burst of thunder, thunder and lightning and lightning

And helpless landlocked screaming

I know god must be agreeingIt's the worst part of watching

It's the worst part of watching

It's the worst part of watching
It's the worst partLandlocked in screaming
God must be agreeing
To be helpless is the worst
Must be the worst part of watching
The worst part of watching

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