

Taxi

Harry Chapin

It was raining hard in 'Frisco
I needed one more fare to make my night
A lady up ahead waved to flag me down
She got in at the lights "Oh, where you going to, my lady blue?"
It's a shame you ruined your gown in the rain
She just looked out the window, she said
"Sixteen Park side Lane" Something about her was familiar
I could swear I'd seen her face before
But she said, "I'm sure you're mistaken"
Then she didn't say anything more It took a while but she looked in the mirror
Then she glanced at the license for my name
A smile seemed to come to her slowly
It was a sad smile, just the same And she said, "How are you, Harry?"
I said, "How are you, Sue?"
Through the too many miles and the too little smiles
I still remember you "It was somewhere in a fairy tale
I used to take her home in my car
We learned about love in the back of a Dodge
The lesson hadn't gone too far You see, she was gonna be an actress
And I was gonna learn to fly
She took off to find the footlights
I took off to find the sky Oh, I've got something inside me
To drive a princess blind
There's a wild man, wizard
He's hiding in me, illuminating my mind Oh, I've got something inside me
But it's not what my life's about
'Cause I've been letting my outside tide me
Over till my time runs out Baby's so high that she's skying
Yes she's flying, afraid to fall
I'll tell you why baby's crying
She's dying, aren't we all? There was not much more for us to talk about
Whatever we had once was gone
So I turned my cab into the driveway
Past the gates and the fine trimmed lawns And she said, "We must get together"
But I knew it'd never be arranged
Then she handed me twenty dollars for a two-fifty fare
She said, "Harry, keep the change" Well another man might have been angry
And another man might have been hurt
But another man never would have let her go

I stashed the bill in my shirt. And she walked away in silence
It's strange how you never know
But we'd both gotten what we'd asked for
Such a long, long time ago You see, she was gonna be an actress
And I was gonna learn to fly
She took off to find the footlights
And I took off for the sky And here, she's acting happy
Inside her handsome home
And me, I'm flying in my taxi
Taking tips, getting stoned I go flying so high when I'm stoned

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