Thrasher

Neil Young

They were hiding behind hay bales

They were planting in the full moon

They had given all they had

For something newBut the light of day was on them

They could see the thrashers coming

And the water shone

Like diamonds in the dewAnd I was just gettin' up

Hit the road before it's light

Tryin' to catch an hour on the sunWhen I saw those thrashers rollin' by

Lookin' more than two lanes wide

I was feelin' like my day had just begunWhere the eagle glides descending

There's an ancient river bending

Through the timeless gorge of changes

Where a sleeplessness awaits I searched out my companions

who were lost in crystal canyons

When the aimless blade of science

Slashed the pearly gatesIt was then I knew I'd had enough

Burned my credit card for fuel

Headed out to where

The pavement turns to sandWith a one way ticket to the land of truth

And my suitcase in my hand

How I lost my friends

I still don't understandThey had the best selection

They were poisoned with protection

There was nothing that they needed

Nothing left to findThey were lost in rock formations

Or became park bench mutations

On the sidewalks and in the stations

They were waiting, waitingSo I got bored and left them there

They were just dead weight to me

Better down the road without that loadBrings back the time

When I was eight or nine

I was watchin' my mamas TV

It was that great 'Grand Canyon' rescue episodeWhere the vulture glides descending

On an asphalt highway bending

Through libraries and museums

Galaxies and starsDown the windy halls of friendship

To the rose clipped by the bull whip

The motel of lost companions

Waits with heated pool and barBut me I'm not stopping there
Got my own row left to hoe

Just another line in the field of timeWhen the thrasher comes
I'll be stuck in the sun
Like the dinosaurs in shrines

But I'll know the time has come to give what's mine

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