

# Scarlet Town

Bob Dylan

In Scarlet Town, where I was born  
There's ivy leaf and silver thorn  
The streets have names that you can't pronounce  
Gold is down to a quarter of an ounce  
The music starts and the people sway  
Everybody says, "Are you going my way? "  
Uncle Tom still workin' for Uncle Bill  
Scarlet Town is under the hill.

Scarlet Town in the month of May  
Sweet William Holme on his deathbed lay  
Mistress Mary by the side of the bed  
Kissin' his face and heapin' prayers on his head  
So brave, so true, so gentle is he  
I'll weep for him as he would weep for me  
Little Boy Blue come your blow horn  
In Scarlet Town, where I was born

Scarlet Town, in the hot noon hours,  
There's palm-leaf shadows and scattered flowers  
Beggars crouching at the gate  
Help comes, but it comes too late  
By marble slabs and in fields of stone  
You make your humble wishes known  
I touched the garment, but the hem was torn  
In Scarlet Town, where I was born

In Scarlet Town, the end is near  
The Seven Wonders of the World are here  
The evil and the good livin' side by side  
All human forms seem glorified  
Put your heart on a platter and see who will bite  
See who will hold you and kiss you good night  
There's walnut groves and maplewood  
In Scarlet Town cryin' won't do no good

In Scarlet Town, you fight your father's foes  
Up on the hill, a chilly wind blows  
You fight 'em on high and you fight 'em down in  
You fight 'em with whiskey, morphine and gin  
You've got legs that can drive men mad  
A lot of things we didn't do that I wish we had  
In Scarlet Town, the sky is clear  
You'll wish to God that you stayed right here

Set 'em Joe, play "Walkin' the Floor"  
Play it for my flat-chested junkie whore  
I'm staying up late, I'm making amends  
While we smile, all heaven descends  
If love is a sin, then beauty is a crime  
All things are beautiful in their time  
The black and the white, the yellow and the brown  
It's all right there in front of you in Scarlet Town