

She walked into this world I made on a  
Little park bench under the shade  
Of a sweet gum tree whose leaves were red and brown  
I looked up and I saw her face  
That was full of fortitude and grace  
She said, "If you don't mind, can I please sit down?"  
See I've been working since the morning  
When the sun starts settling in  
That's when I walk across the town to where my second job begins  
I got two kids I must feed, I've got no time to sit with them and read  
The counselors keep on telling me my boy's got special needs

But don't we all got issues?  
It's just the stuff we live through  
Everybody's got their coffee stains  
I ain't complaining, I'm just saying

That I ain't been to Harvard  
And I ain't got no big degrees  
Everything I know, I learned it on these bitter streets  
And I, can't afford the good life  
But only real love comes for free  
And some days my head's up in the clouds  
But I'm allowed to dream

As she got up and walked away  
I said, "Goodbye," I gave a wave  
And watched that lady fade into the crowd  
And I thought maybe we're the same, hey  
We both cry and we feel shame  
And we both know there still some things  
We've yet to figure out  
See I've been writing since the morning  
When the sun starts settling in  
I cross the town to check the sound  
Where my second job begins  
I've got two kids to feed, some doubts and insecurities  
I pray that I provide a life for everything they need

But don't we all got issues?  
It's just the stuff we live through  
Everybody's got their coffee stains  
I ain't complaining, I'm just singing

That I ain't been to Harvard  
And I ain't got no big degrees  
Everything I know, I learned it on these crazy streets  
And I, can't afford the good life  
But only real love comes for free  
And some days my head's up in the clouds  
But I'm allowed to dream

Oh, woah-oh-oh

As I'm heading home, I think of how  
Her shift is probably ending now  
And I'll be on a plane this time tomorrow

Some folks are on an uphill climb  
Some coast along on borrowed time  
Still others need a little time to borrow

But don't we all got issues?  
It's just the stuff we live through  
Everybody's got their coffee stains  
I can't forget, the words she said remain

That I ain't been to Harvard  
And I ain't got no big degrees  
Everything I know, I learned it on these bitter streets  
And I, can't afford the good life  
But only real love comes for free  
And some days my head's up in the clouds  
But I'm allowed to dream

Oh, woah-oh-oh  
But I'm allowed to dream  
I ain't been to Harvard  
But I'm allowed to dream