Revisionism Street

I saw them standing on a corner Bathed in ordinary light They turned away and started walkin' And faded off into the night Some years ago they were in fashion Tonight they couldn't get a seat They've got themselves a brand new history From Revisionism Street Written on Revisionism Street

The years of sacrifice and struggle The arc of stardom's natural course The inevitable decline The wolves waiting at the door "Let's dig up something really nasty" "Let's get some clay around their feet" "No ones memory is sacred 'round here On Revisionism Street"

"We'll never be in the arena" "Hey, we'll never have to compete" "We'll never write a classic novel" "And we'll never have to be discreet!"

Alfred Hitchcock, Isaac Newton Elvis Presley, Captain Bligh They're heroic or pathetic Depending on which book you buy Charles Dickens, Jackie Gleason Burn 'em all, turn up the heat If there's no truth, use innuendo this is Revisionism Street

"Let's find ourselves some old acquaintance" "Let's see what they have to say" "Some disgruntled ex-employee" "Presto! Payday!"

A tree falls in the forest A million copies go to print Some parasitic little feeder Sits back and makes a mint Somewhere a baby's softly sleeping It's innocence complete Unaware they're workin' late tonight On Revisionism Street