

Desolation Row

Bob Dylan



[A] [A] [Asus4] [A]

They're selling [A picking]postcards of the hanging
They're [D]painting the passports [A]brown
The [E7]beauty parlour is filled with sailors
The [D]circus is in [A]town
[A] Here comes the blind commissioner
[D]They've got him in a [A]trance
One [E7]hand is tied to the tightrope walker
The [D]other is in his [A]pants
And the [D strum]riot squad, they're restless
They [A]need somewhere to [D]go
As [A]lady and I look [E7]out tonight from
[D] Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

Cinder-[A picking]ella, she seems so easy
It [D]takes one to know one she [A]smiles
And [E7]puts her hands in her back pocket
[D] Bette Davis sty-[A]-yle
Then [A]in comes Romeo, he's moaning
You be-[D]long to me I be-[A]lieve
And [E7]someone says you're in the wrong place
my friend
[D] You'd better le-[A]eave
And the [D strum]only sound that's left
[A]After the ambulances [D]go
Is [A]Cinderella [E7]sweeping up on
[D] Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

Now the [A strum] moon is almost hidden
The [D]stars are beginning to [A]hide
The [E7]fortune telling lady
Has even [D]taken all her things in-[A]side
All ex[A]cept for Cain and Abel
And the [D]Hunchback of Notre-[A]Dame
[E7]Everybody is making love
Or [D]else expecting [A]rain
And the [D]Good Samaritan, he's dressing
He's gettin' [A]ready for the [D]show
He's [A]going to the [E7]carnival tonight on
[D] Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

O-[A picking]phelia, she's 'neath the window
For [D]her I feel so a-[A]fraid
On her[E7] twenty-second birthday
She al[D]ready is an old [A]maid
To [A]her, death is quite romantic
She [D]wears an iron [A]vest
Her [E7]profession's her religion
Her [D]sin is her lifeless[A]ness
And [D strum]though her eyes are fixed upon
[A]Noah's great rain-[D]bow
She [A]spends her time [E7]peeking into
[D]Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

[A picking]Einstein disguised as Robin Hood
With his [D]memories in a [A]trunk
[E7]Passed this way an hour ago
With his [D]friend a jealous [A]monk
Ah he [A]looked so immaculately frightful
As he [D]bummed a cigar-[A]ette
Then [E7]went off sniffing drain pipes
And re-[D]citing the alpha[A]bet
You [D strum]would not think to look at him
But he was [A]famous long a-[D]go
For [A]playing the electric [E7]violin on
[D]Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

Doctor [A strum]Filth, he keeps his world
I[D]nside of a leather [A]cup
But [E7]all his sexless patients
They are [D]trying to blow it [A]up
Now his [A]nurse, some local loser
She's in [D]charge of the cyanide [A]hole
And she [E7]also keeps the cards that read
Have [D]mercy on his [A]soul
[D]They all play on the penny whistle
[A]You can hear them [D]blow
If you [A]lean your head out [E7]far enough from
[D] Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

Across the [A picking]street they've nailed the
curtains
They're gettin' [D]ready for the [A]feast
The [E7]Phantom of the Opera
In a [D]perfect image of a [A]priest
They are [A]spoon feeding Casanova
To [D]get him to feel more as-[A]sured
Then they'll [E7]kill him with self-confidence
After [D]poisoning him with [A]words
And the [D strum]Phantom's shouting to skinny
girls
Get [A]outta here if you don't [D]know
Casa[A]nova is just being [E7]punished for going
To [D]Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

At mid-[A picking]night all the agents
And the [D]superhuman [A]crew
Come [E7]out and round up everyone
That [D]knows more than they [A]do
Then they [A]bring them to the factory
Where the [D]heart attack ma-[A]chine
Is [E7]strapped across their shoulders
And [D]then the kero-[A]sene
Is [D strum]brought down from the castles
By in-[A]surance men who [D]go
Check to [A]see that nobody is es-[E7]caping to
[D]Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

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Praise [A strum]be to Nero's Neptune
The Ti-[D]tanic sails at [A]dawn
[E7]Everybody is shouting
[D]Which side are you [A]on
And [A]Ezra Pound and T.S. Eliot
[D]Fighting in the captain's[A] tower
While [E7]calypso singers laugh at them
And [D]fishermen hold [A]flowers
Be[D]tween the windows of the sea
Where [A]lovely mermaids [D]flow
And [A]nobody has to [E7]think too much about
[D] Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4] [A]

Yes I re-[A picking]ceived your letter yesterday
About [D]the time the door knob [A]broke
When you [E7]asked me how I was doing
Was [D]that some kind of [A]joke
All these [A]people that you mention
Yes I [D]know them, they're quite [A]lame
I had to [E7]rearrange their faces
And [D]give them all another [A]name
[D strum]Right now I can't read too good
Don't [A]send me no more letters, [D]no
[A]Not unless you [E7]mail them from
[D]Desolation [A]Row [A] [Asus4 slower and
picking] [A >]