

# Joe Ely, I Had My Hopes Up High

Well I left my home out on the great High Plains  
Headed for some new terrain  
Standin' on the highway with my coffe cup  
A' Wonderin' who was gonna pick me up  
I had my hopes up high--I never thought that I  
Would ever wonder why I ever said good-by  
I had my hopes up high

Well, the first ride I got was in a dynamite truck  
The driver kept a' tellin' me his bad luck  
As we swerved around the curves I began to shout  
Hey-ey mister would you let me out  
I had my hopes up high--I never thought that I  
Would ever wonder why I ever said good-by  
I had my hopes up high

And the next ride I got was with a man in trouble  
The beard on his face was all in a stubble  
Runnin' from the law he was goin' ninety-nine,  
I said hey-ey mister you're out of your mind  
I had my hopes up high--I never thought that I  
Would ever wonder why I ever said good-by  
I had my hopes up high

Oh, the next ride I got was with a preacher man  
Told me that the wicked would be buried in sand  
Don't know why I did it but I lost control  
Hey-ey Papa would you save my soul  
I had my hopes up high--I never thought that I  
Would ever wonder why I ever said good-by  
I had my hopes up high

And I finally got a ride on a carnival train  
Nearly blew away in a hurricane  
I got to thinkin' bout that preacher down in Louisianne  
Sittin' on the Delta Siftin' sand  
I had my hopes up high--I never thought that I  
Would ever wonder why I ever said good-by  
I had my hopes up high