

# Bob Dylan, High Water (For Charley Patton)

High water risin' - risin' night and day  
All the gold and silver are being stolen away  
Big Joe Turner lookin' East and West  
From the dark room of his mind  
He made it to Kansas City  
Twelfth Street and Vine  
Nothing standing there  
High water everywhere

High water risin', the shacks are slidin' down  
Folks lose their possessions - folks are leaving town  
Bertha Mason shook it - broke it  
Then she hung it on a wall  
Says, "You're dancin' with whom they tell you to  
Or you don't dance at all."  
It's tough out there  
High water everywhere

I got a cravin' love for blazing speed  
Got a hopped up Mustang Ford  
Jump into the wagon, love, throw your panties overboard  
I can write you poems, make a strong man lose his mind  
I'm no pig without a wig  
I hope you treat me kind  
Things are breakin' up out there  
High water everywhere

High water risin', six inches 'bove my head  
Coffins droppin' in the street  
Like balloons made out of lead  
Water pourin' into Vicksburg, don't know what I'm going to do  
"Don't reach out for me," she said  
"Can't you see I'm drownin' too?"  
It's rough out there  
High water everywhere

Well, George Lewis told the Englishman, the Italian and the Jew  
"You can't open your mind, boys  
To every conceivable point of view."  
They got Charles Darwin trapped out there on Highway Five  
Judge says to the High Sheriff,  
"I want him dead or alive  
Either one, I don't care."  
High Water everywhere

The Cuckoo is a pretty bird, she warbles as she flies  
I'm preachin' the Word of God  
I'm puttin' out your eyes  
I asked Fat Nancy for something to eat, she said, "Take it off the shelf -  
As great as you are a man,  
You'll never be greater than yourself."  
I told her I didn't really care  
High water everywhere

I'm getting' up in the morning - I believe I'll dust my broom  
Keeping away from the women  
I'm givin' 'em lots of room  
Thunder rolling over Clarksdale, everything is looking blue  
I just can't be happy, love  
Unless you're happy too  
It's bad out there  
High water everywhere