

# Elvis Costello, Heathen Town

They used to call it Sin City  
now it's gone way past that.  
Painting the town  
and then burning it down  
now even that's old hat.  
Now there's a choir of angels  
at the fall of Rome  
singing "Ave Maria"  
or "Home Sweet Home";

[Chorus:]

It's just a heathen town  
I hear only evil  
as my tongue is tightened.  
I used to be god-fearing  
now I'm so frightened  
'cause the devil will drag you under  
by the sharp tailfin  
of your checkered cab  
And I can't sit down,  
I'm going overboard  
in this heathen town.

It starts as a flirtation  
and ends up as an expensive habit.  
With one eye on her place  
in debtor's prison  
And the other on a girl  
dressed as a rabbit.  
Now you can live forever  
endure fits and starts  
The only stake you cannot raise  
Is the one driven through your heart.

[Chorus]