

Jim Carroll, Catholic Boy

I was born in a pool, they made my mother stand
And I spat on that surgeon and his trembling hand
When I felt the light I was worse than bored
I stole the doctor's scalpel and I slit the cord

Refrain:

I was a catholic boy,
Redeemed through pain,
Not through joy

I was two months early they put me under glass
I screamed and cursed their children when the nurses passed
Was convicted of theft when I slipped from the womb
They led me straight from my mother to a cell in the tombs

Repeat refrain

They starved me for weeks, they thought they'd teach me fear
I fed on cellmates' dreams, it gave me fine ideas
When they cut me loose, the time had served me well
I made allies in heaven, I made comrades in hell

I was a catholic child
The blood ran red
The blood ran wild

I make angels dance and drop to their knees

When I enter a church the feet of statues bleed
I understand the fate of all my enemies
Just like christ in the garden of gethsemane

Repeat refrain

I watched the sweetest psalm stolen by the choir
I dreamed of martyrs' bones hanging from a wire
I make a contribution, I get absolution
I make a resolution to purify my soul

Repeat refrain

They can't touch me now
I got every sacrament behind me:
I got baptism,
I got communion,
I got penance,
I got extreme unction
I've got confirmation
'cause I'm a catholic child
The blood ran red
The blood ran wild!

Now I'm a catholic man
I put my tongue to the rail whenever I can.