

# Okkervil River, Black Sheep Boy Number 4

Bleeding black sheep boy,  
mirror in pieces.  
Turn the receiver,  
trace the police station.  
Line to my number  
and number my reasons  
for this paranoia,  
for these accusations.

Each night the numbers  
paired off like lovers,  
collided together  
so I can remember  
my name or my nation.  
Bay black sheep boy.

Go back beyond the pasture,  
you cracked out of my head.  
Get in your battered Mustang  
and the back seat will be your bed.

Burning black sheep boy,  
dark denim phantom.  
Face full of flames,  
the ears full of cheers that have fanned them.  
I'd slice off the horns that sprung right from those temples  
I was chased from my bedroom,  
I was chased from my candles.

By fear of the numbers,  
paired off like lovers,  
collided together  
so I can remember  
my face or my station.  
Pacing black sheep boy.

The floor just won't support you,  
You hovered through the room.  
Get in your battered Mustang  
and the backseat will be your tomb.

And I rode into Baltimore  
and I found a hotel room  
where I tried to escape you,  
but the phone line wouldn't go through.  
And inside the mirror,  
well I saw you stamping  
staring out  
I'd recognize your eyes  
You fell for any of the lines that come flying out.  
Nothing I've heard from you sounds sane or safe.  
Words falling down from the ceiling  
where the mirror is stealing  
the light to reveal us both tonight  
and we're both kneeling in the  
black pool of your shadow.

You cracked out of my head.  
Go back beyond the pasture,  
where I'll smash your mirror  
till you're dead.