

# Rodney Crowell, Shelter From The Storm

'Twas in another lifetime, one of toil and blood  
When blackness was a virtue and the road was full of mud  
I came in from the wilderness, a creature void of form.  
&quot;Come in,&quot; she said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

And if I pass this way again, you can rest assured  
I'll always do my best for her, on that I give my word  
In a world of steel-eyed death, and men who are fighting to stay warm.  
&quot;Come in,&quot; she said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

Not a word was spoke between us, there was little risk involved  
Everything up to that point had been left unresolved.  
Try imagining a place where it's always safe and warm.  
&quot;Come in, I will give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

You were burned out from exhaustion, buried in the hail,  
Poisoned in the bushes, blown out on the trail,  
Hunted like a crocodile, ravaged in the corn.  
&quot;Come in I will give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

Suddenly I turned around and she was standin' there  
With silver bracelets on her wrists and flowers in her hair.  
She walked up to me gracefully and took my crown of thorns.  
&quot;Come in,&quot; she said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

Now there's a wall between us, somethin' there's been lost  
I took too much for granted, I got my signals crossed.  
Just to think that it all began on a noneventful morn.  
&quot;Come in,&quot; I said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

Well, the deputy walks on hard nails, the preacher rides a mount  
But nothing really matters much, it's doom alone that counts  
The one-eyed undertaker, he blows his futile horn.  
&quot;Come in,&quot; she said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

I've heard newborn babies wailin' like a mournin' dove  
And old men with their broken teeth stranded without love.  
Do I understand your question, man, is it hopeless and forlorn?  
&quot;Come in,&quot; she said,  
&quot;I'll give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

In a little hilltop village, they gamble for my clothes  
You'll bargain for salvation and they give you a lethal dose.  
You'll offer up your innocence and get repaid with scorn.  
&quot;Come in, I will give you shelter from the storm.&quot;

Now I'm livin' in a foreign country but I'm bound to cross the line  
Beauty walks a razor's edge, someday I'll make it mine.  
If I could only turn back the hands of time to when you and God were born.  
I know that I could give you,  
Shelter from the storm  
Come in and i will give you shelter from the storm.