1. A RECKONING

This suitcase still smells like the thrift store I saved it from

Big enough to hold all my shit and then some at twenty-one

But now in my 40s I travel with much more dirty laundry

Hundreds of hotel rooms from Shanghai to the Falls of Sioux know me better than you do

I can't believe I let your grief rewrite my youth

I've doubled the devil and changed my name

I lost a limb and live with the pain

If I get back to Sioux Falls there's gonna be a reckoning

2. BEAUCOUP

I didn't know 'til I knew I could endure this life in black and white or intoxicating color with you

Liar / Liar

My eyes are on fire

I can see everything in the backseat of your car

On a dirty floor behind the bar

I can see everything every goddamn night

with the mirror turned just right

I can see everything up against the wall

I'm cuckoo for you, Beaucoup

Liar / Liar

My eyes are on fire again

My mind's a candle burning at both ends and I can see everything...

I'm cuckoo for you, Beaucoup

Every gunshot at night

Every dream I can't describe

Every drug I've ever tried

If my dad were still alive

is you

3. HIT AND RUN

Your father's a drunk - best do what you've been told, Son

Put your bottles down and run

Don't stop till you can't hear Mama cryin'

Do as I mumble, not as I stumble

Or you'll find yourself kidney deep in my kind of trouble

It was a hit and run

I got away but I have to live each day

with what I've done

You're father was a son once of a bum and a gun and I'm sorry -

a curse I couldn't outrun

It's in your blood

It's in your bones

It's in every indiscretion that your future holds

Do as I mumble, not as I stumble

Or you'll find yourself kidney deep in my kind of trouble

It was a hit and run

I got away but the damage is done

It was a hit and run

I got away but I have to live each day

I'd rather be dead

Please, Lord Take me instead

4. CURSED ID

I've been a rake and I've been a fool

I've been as of late enfant terrible

Whatever that means

I keep doing my bad "Drunk Billy Bragg" in front of everyone

All the empty pockets in the world

I can't even afford to sleep on your floor

I've got this cursed rope around my neck

and an unquenched thirst to pull on both ends until this all ends

But I won't and never will

I'm goodbye curious

But I've her

and her

and her

and her

and him still

I've all the empty pockets in the world

I can't even afford to complain anymore

I know I'm lucky to even have this coat

Empty pocket and holed

But I've got this cursed rope around my neck

Was it worth it?

I can't explain it...but yes

5. VIRTUE MISSPENT

Inside your head:

a monsoon of bitters and bourbon

and an undying burden of proof

Inside your heart:

the blackest mood

You're allowed to lament a life of virtue misspent

It hurts now but you'll learn how to leave me

Under your breath you always knew it was never you

I know it hurts now but you'll learn how to leave me

6. MOUNT CLEVEREST

I'm done climbing Mount Cleverest

I'm done tampering with the evidence

To love and to loathe from this day forward

I'll only cum on command

More or less (but less)

To love and to loathe

To live without hope from this day forward

To love and to loathe

To live without hope

I promise I'll resent you the most from this day forward

Let's raise a toast:

I'm dead inside but the yard looks nice so nobody knows

I'm so glad you all could come but I'm fucking done

7. QUI JE PLAISANTE?

Just tell me how this ends

I'm forgiven?

I'm forgotten?

I'm forsaken?

I'm forever on trial?

I'm still seated at the table?

I'm visited in jail?

I'm just another cautionary tale? (to no one's surprise)

O, I gotta know if there's an end

All the time I spent

posing

pretending

posturing

I could've learned another language

Or written more songs

I could've saved my marriage

Qui je plaisante?

You asked the questions

I answered honestly

What more could I do??

You forbade lies and despised the truth

Just tell me how this ends -

I'm forgiven?

I'm forgotten?

I'm dead?

8. PENNY

A penny for your thoughts
What's left of my ego, my eyes,
and a lifetime of blind obedience for your love
I'm just dumb enough to beg
Hands and knees and everything short of a diamond ring
I won't be fooled again

I'm wasting my time chasing your light

A circuitous clown balancing on a wire between two lives

Man, I'm just wasted...

A penny for your thoughts

And quite literally the entirety of my life insurance policy for your love

I hope it's enough...

You're so soft spoken you might blow away

You're so soft spoken you might blow away

You're so soft spoken that I'm afraid you might blow away

I'm afraid

9. WITH YOU WITHOUT YOU

Tragically, Fate frowned upon me on the day she found my diary

The vulgar contents of my head far too filthy to forgive

I'm so sorry that I'm still sorry

In my middle-age of discovery every mistake's a luxury

Now I'm with you without you

Famously, Fate left me for dead with two daggered-eyes in a stranger's bed

It was the violence I needed

Only blinded could I see it

In my middle-age of discovery every mistake's a luxury

So don't ask me where I've been -

I'm home and you and your cat got my tongue again

This is life with an asterisk

This is life now

I'm so sorry about the mess

You don't have a thing to wear

You can't take me anywhere but I'm with you without you

I'm with you without you