

Happy Birthday, Johnny

St. Vincent

Remember one Christmas I gave you Jim Carroll
Intended it as a cautionary tale
You said you saw yourself inside there
Dog-eared it like a how-to manual
Remember one summer we walked in Times Square
I showed you the zombies with hundred inch stares
You took a Bic, set your hotel on fire
We took the blame, took the bags to the train
Happy Birthday Johnny
Wherever you are
Happy Birthday Johnny
Wherever you are
The last time you called it was on New Year's Eve
You asked me for dough to get somethin' to eat
Since we last spoke you live on the street
Yeah, I wouldn't believe all the shit that you seen
Happy New Year Johnny
Is it 23
Happy New Year Johnny
Are the lights on the trees?
I said "Let me think" and you yelled through your teeth
Accused me of actin' like all royalty
Always for show no true charity
You saw me on magazines and TV
But if they only knew the real version of me
Only you know the secrets, the swamp, and the fear
What happened to blood, our family?
Annie, how could you do this to me?
Of course, I blame me
When you get free, Johnny
I hope you find peace

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