

GORDON LIGHTFOOT

Sundown

Part 1: Fill In The Blank

I can _____ lyin' back in her _____ dress

In a _____ where ya do what ya _____ confess.

Part 2, Chorus x 2:

*Sundown ya better take care
If I find you been _____ 'round
my back stairs.*



Part 3: Choose The Word

always sailor's queen means feelin' shame

She's been lookin' like a _____ in a _____ dream
And she don't _____ say what she really _____

Sometimes I think it's a _____

When I get _____ better when I'm feelin' no pain **x2**



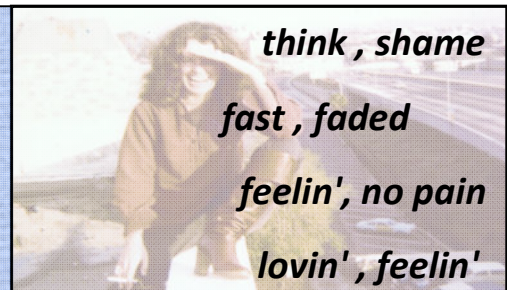
Part 4, Matching:

<i>I can picture every move</i>	<i>it's a sin</i>
<i>Getting lost in her lovin'</i>	<i>better take care</i>
<i>Sundown ya</i>	<i>that a man could make</i>
<i>If I find you been creepin'</i>	<i>when I'm losin' again</i>
<i>Sometimes I think</i>	<i>is your first mistake</i>
<i>When I feel like I'm winnin'</i>	<i>'round my back stairs</i>

Part 5, Choose The Word Pairs

I can see her lookin' _____ in her _____ jeans
She's a hard _____ woman, got me _____ mean

Sometimes I _____ it's a _____
When I get _____ better when I'm feelin' _____



"Sundown," by Gordon Lightfoot:

Released in 1974, this song helped propel the Canadian artist to the top of the charts. Lightfoot has been quiet about the story behind the song, but he gave several clues over the years. The song is widely thought to be a story about a man whose unfaithful lover left him alone to enjoy a night on the town to meet another man, but that he is too in love with her to end their relationship. Other rumors were that the song was about Lightfoot's first marriage, where he began to suspect his wife was having an affair.

In April 1975, Crawdaddy magazine quoted him as saying, *"All it is, is a thought about a situation where someone is wondering what his lover is doing at the moment. He doesn't quite know where she is. He is not ready to give up on her, either, and that's about all I got to say about that."*

There are rumors that "Sundown" was inspired by his girlfriend (not his wife), Cathy Smith, later more infamously known for her involvement in the drug overdose and death of actor John Belushi. Lightfoot has commented in interviews that Cathy Smith was, "the one woman in my life who most hurt me."

As a popular folk singer in North America, Lightfoot also had several other hits, including "If You Could Read My Mind," and "The Wreck of the Edmond Fitzgerald."

Another note:

"When I get feeling better when I'm feelin' no pain," is a reference to his struggles with alcoholism.

Vocabulary and terms for study:

Sundown
Satin
Confess (Confession)
Creeping (Creepin')
Take Care
Back Stairs
Shame
Hard Lovin' Woman

Other areas for study:

ya = you
whatcha = what you

dropping of "g" in "ing" words, such as: lying, creeping, feeling, and winning

Sample Discussion Questions:

1. Some women are attracted to "bad boys," and some men to "bad girls." Why?
2. If you were treated badly by your lover, but you were crazy about them, would you stay or go?
3. What does it take for you to break-up with someone?
4. Have you or a friend had a relationship where alcoholism caused a break-up?
5. Do you believe dating someone "too attractive" can be a negative?
6. Have you ever suspected your boy/girlfriend was cheating on you? Did you learn the truth?