

From A Cutlass Cruiser  
Okkervil River

[Intro]

C

[Verse]

**F** **C** **Dm** **Bb**  
What a day we hadâ€¦ I figured Iâ€™d be feeling bad, but I donâ€™t feel a thing.  
**Dm** **Bb** **C**  
They read from Mark and then bring us all up Shingle Camp Hill Road.  
**F** **C** **Dm** **Bb**  
Throwing flowers at the ground felt like hours, with the grown-ups whimpering.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Eb** **Bb**  
In the blown-out green of spring I see the whole small town explode.

[Chorus]

**C** **Bb**  
**Dm** **Bb**  
And then driving to our house at night, the stars shoot out their shine behind  
the Olds windows.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
**C**  
My father quiet behind the wheel, I fully feel that he knows where heâ€™s trying  
to go.  
**C** **Bb**  
**Dm** **Bb**  
And then they carry me inside, this other world behind my eyes, this bright-lit  
neon glow.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb** **C**  
And then itâ€™s morning everywhere, and summer air, and thereâ€™s the stereo.

[Interlude]

**Eb Bb**

[Verse]

**F** **C** **Dm** **Bb**  
The Electric Company was playing when my mom left me five minutes on the couch,  
**Dm** **Bb** **C**  
and I was blue when she came out, and wasn't breathing.  
**F** **C** **Dm** **Bb**  
That Opel flew through town, all down 120, and around the Lebanon green, and  
out.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Eb** **Bb**  
I don't know what they were thinking about. I don't want to imagine it.

[Chorus]

**C** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
In came the doctor, wearing white. Carefully, he cut a circle in my throat  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb** **C**  
and took a little plastic tube and looped it through my lungs and sealed me  
closed.  
**C** **Bb** **Dm**  
**Bb**  
My parents were called into the room, with no idea what to do but frightened to  
say so.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
**C**  
They showed them how to clean it out, and showed them how to set me down, and  
sent me home.

[Verse]

**F** **C** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
1983 - the apparition came to me and spoke to me all night,  
**Dm** **Bb** **C**  
frozen inside my bed, bone-white, my brother fast asleep.  
**F** **C** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
And, under surgery, a second time it came and showed me a house in outer space,  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
another boy who had my face, a mom and dad who weren't the same...  
**Eb** **Bb**  
I woke up and my aunt gave me a book.

[Chorus]

**C** **Bb**  
**Dm** **Bb**  
Show me the neatest place to hide, to crawl inside the silver gym. Don't tell a  
single other soul.  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb** **C**  
Beneath the bleachers is a lighter, and a sneaker, and a frozen sparrow.  
**C** **Bb** **Dm**  
**Bb**  
I broke into the church at night and pulled out all the stops and heard that  
organ overload,  
**Dm** **Bb** **Dm** **Bb**  
**C**  
and screamed, This giant clashy chord is for Our Lord. Up where he is. Up Where  
he goes.

[Outro]

**C** **Dm** **Dsus4**  
Up that music floats,  
**C** **Dm**  
leaving family, friends and home down so small below.  
**Bb**  
And it's still there for all I know.