

The Ballad of Jesus Rodriguez

Way back in the depths of old Travis County
They're working for dollars like they're working for bounty.
Not a soul to be seen, but the whole damn town is abuzz.
For the Cox' adjunct trailer has been brought to its knees.
There's 6 feet of honey and plenty of bees,
and we're staying god damnit. It's just what an honest man does.

Well Jesus won't you hear me. You better come quick.
I'm a whole lotta tired and a whole lotta sick,
and there's a Ben Franklin for you, if you kill 'em on down to the ground.
I'd rather float like a butterfly than be stung by a bee,
so Jesus Rodriguez won't you do it for me.
Send 'em back to the earth before they run us straight out of town.

Well the bees saw him coming with his broom and some spray,
so they broke for an hour 'til he went on his way.
When he thought they'd been bested, he collected his money and left.
When the Cox heard the buzzin' upon their return,
Pops threw the match and things started to burn.
He told Jesus Rodriguez that his service was nothing but theft

Jesus Rodriguez. That's what the bee says, as it crumbles to pieces
dreaming what might have been.
If not for the honey, if not for the money, well Ma, Pa and Sonny
could've come home again.

Well the park set a-fire and the sky looked aflame. Poor Warren Cox had no one to blame
when the burning spread to the trailer that he called his home.
As for Jesus he's doing mighty fine. He sells barrels of honey on the Arkansas line.
When he saw it all in the trailer, he said to himself "When in Rome..."