

World on the Run

June 2013

Rodney Avenue

Let's drink to the ones with time on their hands	C G
Vagabond lovers with reckless plans	D G
The carny, the drifter, the confidence man	C Em
Let's drink to a world on the run	D G

Let's drink to the ones with hounds at their heels
Palmer's of aces and salters of fields
Slick operators with dubious deals
And fabulous guarantees

Let's drink to the ones who reached for the light	C G
Let's drink to the ones who stayed in the fight	D Em
Let's drink to the candle that won't last the night	F Em
Let's drink to a world on the run	D G

Let's drink to the ones with stars in their eyes
Who run up the banners and block out the cries
Of the good-hearted women and fortunate guys
Paying the price to be free

Let's drink to the ones with nothing to lose
Tin pan alley cats faking the blues
Brokedown palace guards lacing the booze
Living on yesterday

Let's drink to the mill girl out on the town
With the markets up and the plants shut down
Checking her makeup, adjusting her crown
For a punk who will sell her out cold

Let's drink to the one who sits all alone
In the backyard weeds of his childhood home
Watching the fireflies dance to the tune
Of you can't go home any more

Raising a glass in somber appreciation of those who are always a little behind in the race—all of us, really, on this thin shard of ground. The final verse recalls the song's composition. I wrote it in 2013 in the back yard of the home where I grew up. With my father gone and my mother past 90, I knew there were few times I would ever sit there again.