



Steve Tabor
2022 (c)

The Mississippi Delta
Was shining like a national guitar
I am following the river
Down the highway
Through the cradle of the Civil War

I'm going to Graceland, Graceland
Memphis, Tennessee
I'm going to Graceland
Poor boys and pilgrims with families
And we are going to Graceland

My traveling companion is nine years old
He is the child of my first marriage
But I've reason to believe
We both will be received
In Graceland

She comes back to tell me she's gone
As if I didn't know that
As if I didn't know my own bed
As if I'd never noticed
The way she brushed her hair from her forehead
And she said, "losing love
Is like a window in your heart
Everybody sees you're blown apart
Everybody sees the wind blow"

I'm going to Graceland
Memphis, Tennessee
I'm going to Graceland
Poor boys and pilgrims with families
And we are going to Graceland
And my traveling companions
Are ghosts and empty sockets
I'm looking at ghosts and empties
But I've reason to believe
We all will be received
In Graceland

There is a girl in New York City
Who calls herself the human trampoline
And sometimes when I'm falling, flying
Or tumbling in turmoil I say
"Whoa, so this is what she means"
She means we're bouncing into Graceland
And I see losing love
Is like a window in your heart
Well, everybody sees you're blown apart
Everybody feels the wind blow

Ooh, ooh, ooh
In Graceland, in Graceland
I'm going to Graceland
For reasons I cannot explain
There's some part of me wants to see
Graceland
And I may be obliged to defend
Every love, every ending
Or maybe there's no obligations now
Maybe I've a reason to believe
We all will be received
In Graceland

Whoa, oh, oh
In Graceland, in Graceland, in Graceland
I'm going to Graceland

Graceland

The song "Graceland" was written by Paul Simon and released on his album of the same name in 1986. Paul Simon's recording of Graceland is so joyous and uplifting that the New York Times called it: "the rock album equivalent of a work of literature". Rarely does a cover version improve on the original, but the acoustic version of Graceland that Justin Townes Earle recorded in 2017 is an absolute masterpiece. He transformed Graceland into a raw hymn, and made it about the tortured journey of finding your way in a world replete with hardship and heartache.

Memphis is one of my favorite cities, and when I listen to Graceland, my mind immediately turns to my memories of that city. On the very last trip that I took with my mother, we visited Memphis. Like millions before us, we visited Graceland and wandered through the dining rooms, bedrooms, gun range, and Elvis's final poolside resting spot. We took in Memphis barbecue; listened to music on Beale Street; took a music-themed bus tour; visited the Stax Museum; saw a soul music festival; and stayed in a gun-lodge themed resort by the riverside. When I think back to Memphis, it is with sweet memories of the kind people that make this riverside city so special, and, at the same time, it is with sadness at the loss of my mother. Practically a year to the day after my mother passed away, Justin Townes Earle overdosed, and the world lost one of its most talented singer-songwriters.

In this series, I illustrate the way that the song Graceland makes me feel with a mix of different images. The series begins with images taken of Graceland itself. This is followed by snaps taken in different parts of the city, including several portraits of those who call Memphis their home. The series concludes with a few images of a model, Kate Ri, jumping up and down, like the character in the song who calls herself the human trampoline.



GRACELAND
HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE
NATIONAL REGISTER
OF HISTORIC PLACES
BY THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUILT 1939















#LEVITTHELL

Orion





DANGER
EDUCATED
BLACK MAN

STAX
PARKING

YAMAHA MO6

Hartke





MEMPHIS TENNESSEE

Mississippi Blues Map

WEST MEMPHIS

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

ARKANSAS

LOUISIANA

Hwy 61

Hwy 61



ALABAMA

the blues had a bab and they NAMED it ROCK and Roll

Painted by LAMAR SORRENTO 7-28-2012





DANGER
EDUCATED
BLACK MAN

 **YAMAHA** **MO6**

TO DEVICE TO HOST
MIDI IN MIDI OUT MIDI THRU
DIGITAL OUT
PHONES



BIG ASS BEER
TO GO



Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer





SLOW
SMOKED
MEMPHIS
STYLE



Tippin's
FOR



THE GREAT RIVER
CARNIVAL
MEMPHIS
4th & BEALE & LINDEN
MAY 22
JUNE 1

FREE BEER!

Coca-Cola



Round
Westy's

JEFFERSON SQUARE
HOT FUDGE PIE
\$5.29 PLUS TAX
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT...
A SINFUL DELIGHT!

Jefferson Square

Westy's

EXIT

SOUTH

drink
Frostie
FOOTBALL

Paralytic arthritis
tries to get in by way?
MITZI ACTUAL PATIENT

CAL
THE
GREEN

THANKS MEMPHIS

51
BEER

Hot Fudge Pie

GO FOR THE GOAT
Goatshead
BOCK
GET YOUR GOAT HERE

Worn white napkins and crumpled paper on a wooden table.

A yellow menu or receipt on a wooden table.







CAUTION Enter if You Dare

DO NOT ENTER

1051

CAUTION Enter if You Dare

DO NOT ENTER







hit tip
FRIES
seasoned
Big Turkey
w/ 40

#1442

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Graceland