

Commons

David Rovics



Fist you told us on - ly through you could we know God And if we dared to



ques-tion He would-n't spare the rod For you we worked the soi - l for



you we dug the moors For you we shed our blood fought so ma - ny point-less wars And



now you try to tell us there's no-thing we can do You say the world a-round us Be-longs



fair-ly to the few But a - bout eight bil-li-on peo - ple no doubt will a - gree This



wor-ld is our home not your pro-per-ty It's the com-mons our right of birth And

Commons

you who would-en-close the land all a-round the Earth Our fu-ture is your down-fall when we
cut this ball and chain You who'd sac-ri-fice the pub-lic good for your pri-vate gain

With our sweat we built the railroads, built cities on these shores
 But because you own the money you say that it's all yours
 We laid the phone lines and the pipelines and then right before our eyes
 You say these things our taxes paid for you now will privatize
 Privatize the hospitals, privatize the schools
 Privatize the prisons for all those who break your rules
 And preparing for the day when all the wells run dry
 You say you own the very rain that falls down from the sky

*It's the commons, our right of birth
 And to you who'd own the water all around the Earth
 Our future is your downfall, when we cut this ball and chain
 You who'd sacrifice the public good for your private gain*

You claim to own the harvest with your terminator seeds
 You claim to own the genomes of every animal that breeds
 You claim to own our culture and the music that we play
 And with every song we download to your coffers we must pay
 You would even own my name and you say it's for the best
 Maybe you'll let us on your radio stations if our songs can pass your test
 You own country, you own western, you say you've given us a choice
 You may own the airwaves but you'll never own my voice

*It's the commons, our right of birth
 And to you who'd own the music all around the Earth
 Our future is your downfall, when we cut this ball and chain
 You who'd sacrifice the public good for your private gain*

*It's the commons, our right of birth
 And to you who would own everything all around the Earth
 Our future is your downfall, when we cut this ball and chain
 You who'd sacrifice the public good for your private gain*