

Fast Car – Tracy Chapman

You will hear a song by Tracy Chapman about a couple and the challenges they face trying to make a life together. For questions 1 – 10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Fast Car

The singer thinks any other place would be (1) than where she is now.

She had a job at a (2) where she earned some money.

She wants to go with her partner to live in (3)

She says her "old man" lives with a (4) because he drinks too much.

After her mother left, she had to quit (5) to take care of her father.

In the end she made the decision to leave and she remembers seeing
the (6) lay out before her while driving.

In that moment, she felt that she (7) somewhere and
could be someone.

In the city, she got a job as a (8), but her partner didn't find work.

She wants to buy a house in (9) when they are making more money.

She got a good job, but her partner goes to the bar a lot and doesn't
see his (10) very often.

ANSWER KEY

1. better
2. (convenience) store
3. the city
4. bottle
5. school
6. city lights
7. belonged
8. checkout girl
9. the suburbs
10. kids

LYRICS

You got a fast car
I want a ticket to anywhere
Maybe we make a deal
Maybe together we can get somewhere
Any place is better
Starting from zero, got nothing to lose
Maybe we'll make something
Me, myself, I got nothing to prove

You got a fast car
I got a plan to get us outta here
I been working at the convenience store
Managed to save just a little bit of money
Won't have to drive too far
Just 'cross the border and into the city
You and I can both get jobs
Finally see what it means to be living

See, my old man's got a problem
He lives with a bottle, that's the way it is
He says his body's too old for working
His body's too young to look like his
When momma went off and left him
She wanted more from life than he could give
I said "Somebody's gotta take care of him"
So I quit school, and that's what I did

You got a fast car
Is it fast enough so we can fly away?
We gotta make a decision
Leave tonight, or live and die this way

[Chorus]
So I remember when we were driving
Driving in your car

Speed so fast it felt like I was drunk
City lights lay out before us
And your arms felt nice wrapped around my
shoulder
And I-I had a feeling that I belonged
I-I had a feeling I could be someone, be
someone, be someone

You got a fast car
We go cruising, entertain ourselves
You still ain't got a job
And I work in a market as a checkout girl
I know things will get better
You'll find work and I'll get promoted
We'll move out of the shelter
Buy a bigger house and live in the suburbs

[Chorus]

You got a fast car
I got a job that pays all our bills
You stay out drinkin' late at the bar
See more of your friends than you do your kids
I'd always hoped for better
Thought maybe together you and me'd find it
I got no plans, I ain't going nowhere
So take your fast car and keep on driving

[Chorus]

You got a fast car
Is it fast enough so you can fly away?
You gotta make a decision
Leave tonight or live and die this way