

EMPTY GATE

VERSE 1

The incense smoke had turned to bitter grey...
I held the lines, I learned the words to say.
But the air grew thin, the altar felt like stone.
I was preaching peace, but I was on my own.
They built a fence around the sacred truth...
[elongated]
I gave my sweat, I gave my hungry youth.

CHORUS

Now I'm stepping through the empty gate.
I'm letting go of the heavy weight.
The robe was tight, the collar used to fray.
I'm walking out into the open day.
[Performance: Restraint, resonant belt]
It's not a fault to find a clearer sight...
To leave the hollow temple for the light.

VERSE 2

The titles faded like a sea-sonal leaf.
A hollow promise masquerading as belief.
I'm not a traitor for asking why it's cold...
For questioning the iron grip of old.

BRIDGE

They'll say I'm lost...
(I'm finally found)
They'll say I'm drifting...
(I'm standing on the ground!)
I'm honoring the Buddha, honoring the seed...
But I'm cutting every wire of the greed!
I'm free....*[elongated]*

CHORUS

Yeah, I'm stepping through the empty gate.
I'm letting go of the heavy weight.
The robe was tight, the collar used to fray.
I'm walking out into the open day.
It's not a fault to find a clearer sight...
To leave the hollow temple;
for the lii-iight....

OUTRO

The altar is empty...
The path is wide.
The temple is in me...
There's no-where to hide.

I'm finally walking... walking home....