Chris Deburgh, Don't Pay the Ferryman

Chris DeBurgh
Miscellaneous
Don't Pay the Ferryman
It was late at night on the open road
Speeding like a man on the run
A lifetime spent preparing for the journey

He is closer now and the search is on Reading from a map in the mind Yes there's a ragged hill And there's the boat on the river

And when the rain came down
He heard a wild dog howl
There were voices in the night - "Don't do it!"
Voices out of sight - "Don't do it!
Too many men have failed before
Whatever you do

Don't pay the ferryman Don't even fix a price Don't pay the ferryman Until he gets you to the other side

In the rolling mist then he gets on board
Now there'll be no turning back
Beware that hooded old man at the rudder
And then the lightning flashed, and the thunder roared
And people calling out his name
And dancing bones that jabbered and a-moaned
On the water

And then the ferryman said "There is trouble ahead.
So you must pay me now" - "Don't do it!" "You must pay me now" - "Don't do it!" And still that voice came from beyond Whatever you do

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Don't pay - the ferryman!