



Big Yellow Taxi

by Joni Mitchell

Questions

Verse 1	They paved paradise And put up a parking lot With a pink hotel, a boutique And a swinging hot spot	}	What do you think the specific images symbolize in this first verse?
Chorus	Don't it always seem to go That you don't know what you've got Till it's gone They paved paradise And put up a parking lot	}	What is the main message the artist is trying to give to listeners in the chorus?
Verse 2	They took all the trees Put 'em in a tree museum And they charged the people A dollar and a half just to see 'em	}	Discuss the irony of this scenario.
Verse 3	<i>Chorus</i> Hey farmer farmer Put away that DDT now Give me spots on my apples But leave me the birds and the bees Please!	}	What is DDT? Why does the artist prefer spots on her apples? Describe the process of how food gets to your table. What goes into making it?

Chorus

Verse 4

Late last night
I heard the screen door slam
And a big yellow taxi
Took away my old man



What do you the first
two lines symbolize?
What do the "taxi" and
"old man" represent.

Chorus