

Matchstalk Men

Brian and Michael

He painted Salford's smokey tops
On cardboard boxes from the shops
And parts of Ancoats where I used to play
I'm sure he once walked down our street
Cause he painted kids who had nowt on their feet
The clothes we wore had all seen better days

Now they said his works of art were dull
No room, all round the walls are full
But Lowry didn't care much anyway
They said he just paints cats and dogs
And matchstalk men in boots and clogs
And Lowry said that's just the way they'll stay

Chorus

**And he painted matchstalk men and matchstalk cats and dogs
He painted kids on the corner of the street with the sparking clogs
Now he takes his brush and he waits outside them factory gates
To paint his matchstalk men and matchstalk cats and dogs**

Now canvas and brushes were wearing thin
When London started calling him
To come on down and wear the old flat cap
They said tell us all about your ways
And all about them Salford days
Is it true you're just an ordinary chap

Chorus

Now Lowrys hang upon the wall
Beside the greatest of them all
And even the Mona Lisa takes a bow
This tired old man with hair like snow
Told northern folk its time to go
The fever came and the good Lord mopped his brow

Chorus

**And he left us matchstalk men and matchstalk cats and dogs
He left us kids on the corner of the street with sparking clogs
Now he takes his brush and he waits outside them pearly gates
To paint his matchstalk men and matchstalk cats and dogs**

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<Next two verses men and women sing their lines at the same time>

Men: And he left us matchstalk men and matchstalk cats and dogs
Women: (* * * The big ship sails on the ally-ally-oh, the ally-ally-oh)
Women: He left us kids on the corner of the street with sparking clogs
Women: (* * * The big ship sails on the ally-ally-oh, the ally-ally-oh)
Women: Now he takes his brush and he waits outside them pearly gates
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