TROUBLE SONGS

A Whole House

There’s gonna be some trouble / A whole house will need rebuilding
— Morrissey

The trouble promised in the first line of “Now My Heart Is Full,” which opens side one, arrives in the first cut on side two, “Why Don’t You Find out for Yourself.” The word “trouble” has flown the coup, but the feeling remains, sick down to my heart / well that’s just the way it goes.

No more named, trouble skims the sorry lake of the album, a brick in the small of the back again, as moaned by the Krazy Kat intoning “I Am Hated for Loving.” By the time it comes to rest near “Speedway” at the end of the album, the rumors are true: I never said they were completely ungrounded.

A step aside from Destroyer’s Trouble in Dreams, which obviates “trouble” while saturating the singer/listener, Morrissey’s opening salvo makes a promise it does and does not keep. If you know you’re in trouble you no longer need the signs.

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22 and the first line of Morrissey’s 1994 album Vauxhall and I
23 That is, “trouble” sticks to the title and does not appear by name in the songs, but look here, we’re soaking in it.