Ten Great Narrative Songs That Aren’t the Beatles, Springsteen or Dylan

“1952 Vincent Black Lightning,” Richard Thompson

“Ode To Billie Joe,” Bobbie Gentry

“Mind Playing Tricks On Me,” Geto Boys

“The Road Goes On Forever,” Robert Earl Keen

“Paradise By the Dashboard Light,” Meat Loaf

“The Randall Knife,” Guy Clark

“Up the Junction,” Squeeze

“Fast Car,” Tracy Chapman

“Miss Otis Regrets,” Ella Fitzgerald

“Rewind,” Nas

Mark Simos and Tommy Tomlinson
The Beat Goes On: A composer and journalist apply music to reporting