

## Gethsemane, Again

Al Stewart

In Gloucester Cathedral, on Saturday night  
I came to your flower show, blown like a kite  
And I stood by the tombstones, and gazed at the lights  
On the altar  
And the horse-faced old ladies and tweedy-tounged men  
Of county society they came and they went  
With pamphlets and leaflets of Christian events  
For the fall

But ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Gethsemane again?

Oh the half-a-crown programmes on sale at the door  
Were clutched in the teeth of the rich and the poor  
As they swayed in an undertone conscience-free  
Forward together  
And the outstretching hands of the swains of the Lord  
Sold the communing commuters the word  
With LPs of Mary and photos of God  
In the hall

But ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Gethsemane again?

Oh the flowers hushed the air as the columns advanced  
To the clinking of coins in a ritual dance  
On flagstones that ached for a chance of a chance  
Of escaping  
And the mystical statues looked down so depressed  
At the endless possessors becoming possessed  
And the costumed confessors who never confessed  
To the wall

But ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Gethsemane again?

Oh I saw a blue hair-rinse, I saw a black tooth  
I saw a false face in a telephone booth  
And the stark white-faced roses that screamed out the truth  
Of their dying  
And a walrus's dreams and a carpenter's love  
Absorbed like a hand in a great rubber glove  
And flown like a flag over battlefields  
Factories and all

Ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Gethsemane again?

Oh I dodged the collection box choirboy and out  
To the streets where the wind shook my hair with a shout  
And the dusty-faced daisies were blowing about  
So freely  
And Christ in the ruins was wandering again

As he walked with the beggars and talked to the lame  
And danced with the children and sailors who came  
At his call

But ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Gethsemane again?

Ain't it all just like Jesus  
Crying in the rain?  
Ain't it all just Nazareth again?