

## Night of the 4th of May

Al Stewart

And the days they flew by  
And the leaves fell from the trees  
And many times you came around  
And many times you slept with me  
And every time that we made love  
You wrote it down in your diary  
Lady of ladies

But I would always say to you  
Don't ask about tomorrow  
Give what you have, take what you need  
Your time is only now  
Don't try to tie me down to promises  
I live for today, today is all there is  
And freedom seems to be everything to me

I took you down to a party  
On the night of the 4th of May  
And a strange and growing restlessness  
Had hung in the air all day  
The need to try and tear down  
And destroy all that we'd made  
Lady of ladies

You whispered in my ear and asked me  
If I fancied her  
You told me that he'd phoned you  
When I was in America  
Daring each other just to say okay  
Swop for tonight, didn't I always say  
That freedom seems to be everything to me

And she came and she sat down beside me  
And you found an excuse to go downstairs  
And she smiled and made  
The kind of conversation that you do  
And later on she said  
'My last train has gone  
Oh I wonder if you could run me home'

And I found you in the hallway and told you  
That was all that I would do  
Just run her home and it's through  
Oh I thought you knew But I must confess  
I laid my head on her breast  
And it seemed so hard  
To pull it away

Her hand touched my hand  
And her eyes were offering the rest  
If it wasn't for you, oh I would have stayed  
But I came back home through the morning  
To find you lying awake  
And I knew all at once what you'd done  
And I heard myself say  
"Why did you have to sleep with him  
Anyone else

Wouldn't have mattered  
Half  
As much as him"

I don't want to touch you  
Somehow you feel unclean  
I just wish that you  
Were five hundred miles away from me  
Don't talk at all, don't start to cry  
Just pack up your things  
Lady of ladies

And though I'd always told myself  
That when our time ended  
I'd walk away with no regrets  
And no attempts to stay  
Somehow it doesn't seem to be that way  
I find I'm needing every word you say  
This freedom seems to be everything to me

And you went up to Cambridge  
And you stayed in your brother's room  
And you wrote me a letter and sent it the same afternoon  
You said "I just want to hurt myself  
Oh I need you so badly now"

And you told me  
"Without you there seems to be no horizon at all  
Just no crack in the wall  
No place lower to fall

"Hey don't leave me, don't leave me  
The shapelessness of the dawn  
Floods above and beneath me,  
I can't go on

And I had to walk right into the trap  
And I had to say please come back  
Though I felt all the while  
My resistance slipping away

Why did I have to fall for you  
Anyone else  
Wouldn't have hurt me  
Half  
As much as you