

## My Dark Life

Elvis Costello

She says nobody wants to believe  
You're the same as everyone.  
What makes me unique? My Dark Life.  
There was a kink in the world  
Sent that statue tumbling  
An invitation east  
So we can watch it all crumbling

She came off like light and so softly she spoke:  
"You don't know, no you don't know about my dark life"  
And you think you're a guest, you're a tourist at best  
Peering into the corners of your dark life  
Now that you tear your dreams from consumptive ballerinas  
She'd stand on tiptoes for you in a grey and tattered tutu  
She stays where she is because of voyeurs like these  
With an accusative look that says My Dark Life.

Robber men await you then in each beguiling alley  
To shake you and to pierce you and remind you of  
My Dark Life.

Enter the pious elite, in their preening finery  
And bang the tambourine  
They're dining on rice paper scenery  
See how the villain attracts envious glances from everyone  
She's waitressing by day  
It doesn't bring in much money now

And his strong concealed arms set off bells and alarms  
In the strangest locations of My Dark Life  
But the fantasy slipped as he tipped her in cigarettes  
She tries to smile very graciously when she wants to kill him  
Now the victory is sweet, you'll get down on your knees  
It's the perfect position for kissing western leather

So they came from Ugly Texas and from Nameless Tennessee  
From Peculiar Missouri and from places closer to me.  
All the cream of heartless England, cheered the carnival is over  
There are remnants of red army bandsmen  
Played "America The Beautiful"