

## Poisoned Rose

Elvis Costello

The poisoned rose  
That you gave to me  
It left me half alive  
And half in ecstasy  
But if half of your love  
Is all I can win  
Give me just a fraction  
But no more medicine

The poisoned rose  
On a Valentine card  
That you take straight to the heart  
That you call my junkyard

But if all I can do  
is save pieces of you  
The piece of your mind  
The piece of your heart

Didn't tear me apart  
Like the poisoned rose  
I received from you

I don't know  
How we came to grow  
Into this very sad affair  
Everytime we do the decent thing  
Somebody spikes the drink  
And a single becomes a pair

The poisoned rose  
That you wear at your best  
That I keep pressed between the white sheets  
Where you lie half undressed

I threw away my shirt and shoes  
You looked and I dived in  
It's just you and me now  
'Cause I threw away the gin  
I threw away your alibis  
And all your worn-out clothes  
I threw myself upon the floor  
But I couldn't throw away  
This poisoned rose