

# White Knuckles

Elvis Costello

White knuckles came down to put the frighteners on  
I believe she's the one that he's got his heart set on  
It doesn't matter if your face doesn't fit  
There's no charge for changing it  
Ooh ooh  
What are you doing  
You see right through him  
You don't have to take it when he gets cruel

White knuckles on black and blue skin  
You don't have to take it so you just give in  
He didn't mean to hit her but she kept laughing  
White knuckles sweatin' on the headboard  
He never found out what the kisser was for

Losing face with the boys while she's whispering in his ear  
They never found out why they called it laughing gear  
Maybe they weren't loved when they were young  
Maybe they should be hung by their tongues

Ooh ooh  
Under the blankets with the body jerk  
He needs her like the axe needs the turkey  
Making a mockery of his fancy footwork

White knuckles on black and blue skin  
You don't have to take it so you just give in  
He didn't mean to hit her but she kept laughing  
White knuckles sweatin' on the headboard  
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There's always someone new to toy with when the penny drops in the slot  
Now it's all petty crime on the news at nine  
But it's all she's got  
Love on the never never dreams don't come cheap  
I don't close my eyes when I go to sleep

Ooh ooh  
It gets right under your skin  
It makes you as miserable as sin but  
you don't have to take it so you just give in

White knuckles on black and blue skin  
You don't have to take it so you just give in  
He didn't mean to hit her but she kept laughing  
White knuckles sweatin' on the headboard  
He never found out what the kisser was for

Why don't you come round anymore  
Mama said  
He's using you  
Sister said  
I told you so too  
When he goes through your head  
You took him to be true