

# While You Were Sleeping

Elvis Perkins

While you were sleeping your babies grew  
The stars shined and the shadows moved  
Time flew the phone rang  
There was a silence when the kitchen sang  
Its songs competed like kids for space  
We stared for hours in our maker's face  
They gave us picks said "go mine the sun  
And go gold and come back when you're done"  
Uh oh

While you were sleeping you tossed you turned  
You rolled your eyes as the world burned  
The heavens fell the earth quaked  
I thought you must be but you weren't awake, no  
You were dreaming you ignored the sun  
You grew your power garden for your little ones  
And you found brides for them on Christmas Eve  
They hung young Cain from the Adam trees  
And danced uh oh  
While you were sleeping I tossed and I turned too  
I closed my eyes but the future burned through  
The planet turned a hair grey as I relived the day

While you were sleeping the money died  
Machines were harmless and the earth sighed  
The wind you swept sound and gravity brought my love  
Around  
The oceans rose sang about decay  
The witches flew and the mermaids stayed  
Full of dreams you overslept  
In keeping with the quiet through the walls I crept  
I walked on tip-toes sent darkness swirling over all  
The kitchen  
In the early morning  
Uh oh uh oh

I'll never catch up to you who sleep so sound  
My yawns are useless my heart beats too loud  
To go to sleep my mind's too proud to bow out  
While you were sleeping the time changed  
All your things were rearranged  
Your vampire mirrors face to face  
They saw forever out into space and found you dreaming  
In black and white  
While it rained in all the colors of the night  
Uh oh uh oh

I watched the tv's memories champion ships vanish to sea  
Can it be my honey between you and me  
So I waited for the riddled sky to be solved again by  
Sunrise  
And I made a death soup for life  
For my father's ill widowed wife  
Did you have that strangest dream before you woke  
'Cause in your gown you had the butterfly stroke  
Did it escape you like some half-told joke  
When you reached for your plume of smoke

And it'll haunt you my honey bee  
Anyone who's anyone has that same dream  
Were you falling were you flying and were you calling  
Out or were you dying  
But thank god you're up now let's stay this way  
Else there'll be no mornings and no more days  
'Cause when we're dreaming the babies grow  
The stars shine and the shadows flow  
Time flies the phone rings there is a silence  
When everybody tries to sing  
Uh oh uh oh