

# They Murdered The Clown

Graham Parker

The ringmaster looked a bit pasty and down Dying as he was to get out of town  
The lions and the tigers had gnawed at his feet  
But the lion tamer's whip hurt much more than their teeth  
The Giovanni Sisters performed in a sweat Someone cut holes in the safety net  
The Ritzo Brothers cancelled at the last minute  
But no one missed their act there wasn't much in it

And after the show that night  
The clowns had the makeup wiped from their faces  
When somebody pulled a knife  
and cut off Coco's bright red braces  
They murdered the clown  
They wiped that grin right off his face  
They murdered the clown  
Still the world's not a funnier place  
funnier place (first and last time only)

The kids rode the elephant heavy as lead  
I think he'd much rather have sat on their heads  
They're ripping the horn from the Rhino tonight  
So some fat Sheik can fuck all night  
And watch out for Coco when he's had a drink  
He'll tickle the children right where they're pink  
You might run away with the circus for fun  
But it looks more like somewhere that you'd run from

You should see the fear on the dancing bears' faces  
Take off their muzzles and check out the view  
The gypsy boys seem such colourful characters  
But you wouldn't want them moving in next to you  
And after the whole lot has pulled out of town  
The ringmaster still looks like he's going to drown  
He pulls out a long knife that bears his initials  
And buries it deep before he blows the whistle

She looked at him sideways she looked at him dark  
She pulled at her beard and she started to bark  
He told her before not to mess with the staff

But she fell for the clown Because she said he made her laugh