

# The Drowning Man

Janis Ian

He said, "Grab any stool, put your belly to the bar"  
I'm not such a fool, I know just who you are  
It's been too many years and not enough time  
Have a cup of my tears, they've been watered with wine  
I am the drowning man, I am the drowning man

There once was a girl, every story starts that way  
She lit up my world like a fireworks display  
And the flame drew me near but it frightened me more  
So I met her with water and I rained 'til I poured  
Now I am the drowning man, I am the drowning man

I'm drowning in jiggers and I'm drowning in smoke  
I'm drowning in rivers where the fish gasp and choke  
I have drowned my tomorrows just to drown out my past  
Now I drown all my sorrows at the bottom of this glass  
'Cause I am the drowning man, I am the drowning man

I won't die for money and I won't die for love  
And I won't die for beauty or the good lord above  
But I'll die for a dream whose heart is engraved  
In the rocks and the reefs of my watery grave  
I am the drowning man, I am the drowning man