There was a gentleman I knew A stroke held his wife fast asleep And his whole life had come down to The vigil he would daily keep I asked would he rather be free? And this is how he answered me That's the deal, that's the bargain that you make That's the vow that two hearts take That if better turns to worse you will abide That's the deal, if it were not for God's grace I might be there in her place and she'd be right by my side That's the deal In my mind I still hear him talk I keep those words like souvenirs Brought from a place where couples walk Arm in arm through this veil of tears I pray someday for my own sake I find the heart I'll never break That's the deal, that's the bargain that you make That's the vow that two hearts take That if better turns to worse you will abide That's the deal, if it were not for God's grace I might be there in her place and she'd be right by my side That's the deal That's the deal That's the deal.