

What Makes a Man

Marc Almond

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My mum and I we live alone
A great apartment is our home
In Fair Home Towers
I have to keep me company
Two cats, a dog, a parakeet
Some plants and flowers
I help my mother do the chores
I wash, she dries I do the floors
We work together
I shop and cook and sew a bit
Though mum does too I must admit
I do it better

At night I work at a strange bar
Impersonating every star
I'm quite deceiving
The customers come in with doubt
And wonder what I'm all about
But leave believing
I do a very special show
Where I am nude from head to toe
After strip teasing
Each night the men look so surprised
I change my sex before their eyes

Tell me if you can
What make a man a man?

At three o'clock or so I meet
With friends to have a bite to eat
And conversation
We love to empty out our hearts
On every subject from the arts
To liberation
We love to pull apart someone
Or spread some gossip just for fun
Or start a rumor
We let our hair down so to speak
And mark ourselves with tongue in cheek
And inside humour

So many times we have to pay
For having fun and being gay
It's not amusing
There's always those who spoil our games
By finding fault and calling names
Always accusing
They draw attention to themselves
At the expense of someone else
It's so confusing
Yet they make fun of how I walk
And imitate the way I talk

Tell me if you can
What makes a man a man?

My masquerade come to an end
When I go home to bed again
Alone and friendless
I shut my eyes I think of him
I fantasize what might have been
My dreams are endless
We love each other but it seems
The love lives only in my dreams
It's so one-sided
But in this life I must confess
The search for love and happiness
Is unrequited

I ask myself what have I got
And what I am and what I'm not
What am I giving
The answers come from those who make
The rules that some of us must break
Just to keep living
I know my life is not a crime
I'm just a victim of my time
I stand defenseless
Nobody has the right to be
The judge of what is right for me

Tell me if you can
What makes a man a man?