

# Romeo Is Bleeding

Tom Waits

Romeo is bleeding but not so as you'd notice  
He's over on 18th street as usual  
Looking so hatd against the hood of his car  
Ans putting out a cigarette in his hand  
And for all the pachucos at the pumps  
At romeros paint and body  
They all seein' how far they can spit  
Well it was just another night  
But now they're huddled in the brake lights of a '58 Belair  
And listenin' how romeo killed a sheriff with his knife

And they all jump when they hear the sirens  
But romeo just laughs and says  
All the racket in the world ain't never gonna  
Save that coppers ass  
He'll never see another summertime for gunnin' down my  
Brother  
And leavin' him like a dog beneath a car without his knife

And Romeo says hey man gimme a cigarette  
And they all reach for their pack  
And Frankie lights it for him and pats him on the back  
And throws a bottle at a milk truck  
And as it breaks he graps his nuts  
And they all know they could've just like romeo  
If they only had the guts

But romeo is bleeding but nobody can tell  
And he sings along with the radio  
With a bullet in his chest  
And he combs back his fenders  
And they all agree its clear  
That everything is cool now that romeos here  
But romeo is bleeding  
And he winches now and then and he leans against  
The car door and feels the blood in his shoes  
And someones crying in the phone booth  
At the five points by the store  
Romeo starts his engine  
And wipes the blood of the door  
And he brodys through the signal  
With the radio full blast  
Leavin' the boys there hikin' up their chinos  
And they all try to stand like romeo  
Beneath the moon cut like a sicle  
And they're talkin' now in Spanish about their hero

But Romeo is bleeding as he gives the man his ticket  
And he climbs to the balcony at the movies  
And he'll die without a wimper  
Like every hero's dream  
Just an angel with a bullet  
And Cagney in the screen