

David

"Five Years"

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Pushing thru the market square, so many mothers
sighing
News had just come over, we had five years left to cry
in
News guy wept and told us, earth was really dying
Cried so much his face was wet, then I knew he was not
lying
I heard telephones, opera house, favourite melodies
I saw boys, toys electric irons and T.V.'s
My brain hurt like a warehouse, it had no room to spare
I had to cram so many things to store everything in
there
And all the fat-skinny people, and all the tall-short
people
And all the nobody people, and all the somebody
people
I never thought I'd need so many people

A girl my age went off her head, hit some tiny children
If the black hadn't a-pulled her off, I think she would
have killed them
A soldier with a broken arm, fixed his stare to the
wheels of a Cadillac
A cop knelt and kissed the feet of a priest, and a queer
threw up at the sight of that
I think I saw you in an ice-cream parlour, drinking milk
shakes cold and long
Smiling and waving and looking so fine, don't think
you knew you were in this song
And it was cold and it rained so I felt like an actor
And I thought of Ma and I wanted to get back there
Your face, your race, the way that you talk
I kiss you, you're beautiful, I want you to walk

We've got five years, stuck on my eyes
We've got five years, what a surprise
We've got five years, my brain hurts a lot
We've got five years, that's all we've got

