Elvis Costello & The Attractions "New Lace Sleeves"

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Bad lovers face to face in the morning Shy apologies and polite regrets Slow dances that left no warning of Outraged glances and indiscreet yawning

Good manners and bad breath get you nowhere Even presidents have newspaper lovers Ministers go crawling under covers

She's no angel, he's no saint They're all covered up with white washed grease paint And you say

The teacher never told you anything but white lies But you never see the lies and you believe Oh you know you have been captured you feel so civilized

And you look so pretty in your new lace sleeves

The salty lips of the socialite sisters With their continental fingers that have Never seen working blisters Oh I know they've got their problems

I wish I was one of them They say daddy's coming home soon With his sergeant stripes and his empire mug and spoon

No more fast buck And when are they gonna learn their lesson When are they gonna stop all of these victory processions And you say

The teacher never told you anything but white lies But you never see the lies and you believe Oh you know you have been captured you feel so civilized

And you look so pretty in your new lace sleeves

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