

## **Elvis Costello & The Imposters**

### **"Stella Hurt"**

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You should wear your red galoshes  
Walking o'er the city pride  
Streets are paved with heaven's pennies  
Gutters full of suicides

Teddy steadily fell from grace  
Somewhere near Arcadia  
Once she overheard a voice  
That she didn't hear on the radio

Velvet gloves and country clubs  
Were never going to hold her  
Ringing the necks of silly southern belles  
Who wanted to scold her

Don't bring me down  
I'm trouble bound  
Blue song, red alert  
Who made Stella hurt?

Teddy soon dropped out of sight  
Turned up in another town  
Changed her name for the spotlight  
Singing like a blue bird in a sequin gown

She finally fell and married well  
But I knew it wouldn't last  
Reversing back into the limelight  
No one ever saw her even half plastered

Don't bring me down  
I'm trouble bound  
Blue song, red alert  
Who made Stella hurt?

Then she saw those soldier boys  
Throw their bonnets in the air  
Self-made men would pledge their fortunes  
And dream of her and dream of her

Generals in the commissary  
Opened up a case of wine

Checked the perfume of the cork  
Said, "Made in 1929"

They used her up, to raise morale  
For money and Old Glory  
Her voice was shot beyond repair  
But this is not the last act of this story

The night is black as cracked shellac  
Abandoned in an attic  
Stella is silent as the grave  
Until the needle drags her through the static

Don't bring me down  
I'm trouble bound  
Blue song, red alert  
Who made Stella hurt?

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