

## Hazmat Modine

### "Fancy"

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Remember it all very well lookin' back  
It was the summer I turned eighteen  
We lived in a one room, rundown shack  
On the outskirts of New Orleans  
We didn't have money for food or rent  
To say the least we were hard pressed  
But Mama spent every last penny she had  
To buy me a dancin' dress

Well Mama washed and combed and curled my hair  
She painted my eyes and lips well then I stepped down  
into  
A satin'  
Dancin' dress that had a split on the side clean up  
To my hip  
Well it was red velvet trim and it fit me good  
Standin' back from the lookin' glass  
There stood a woman where a half grown kid  
Had stood

Here's your one chance Fancy don't let  
Me down  
Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down

Mama dabbled a little bit of perfume on my neck  
And then she kissed my cheek  
And I saw the tears wellin' up in her troubled eyes  
When she started to speak  
She looked at a pitiful shack and then she looked at me  
and took a ragged  
Ragged breath  
She said your Pa's run off and I'm real sick  
And the baby's gonna starve to death

She handed me a heart shaped locket that said  
To thine own self be true  
And then I shivered as I watched a roach crawl across  
The toe of my high heeled shoe  
It sounded like somebody else that was talkin'  
Askin' Mama what do I do  
She said be nice to the gentlemen Fancy

They'll be nice to you

Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down  
Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down  
Lord forgive me for what I do,  
But if you want out  
Well it's up to you  
Well don't let me down  
Now your Mama's gonna move you uptown

Well, that was the last time I saw my Ma  
The night I left that rickety shack  
The welfare people came and took the baby  
Mama died and I ain't been back

Well But the wheels of fate they was startin' to turn  
And for me there was no way out  
It wasn't very long 'til I knew exactly  
What Mama'd been talkin' about

I knew what I had to do but I made myself this  
Solemn vow  
Oh I's gonna be a lady someday  
Though I didn't know when or how  
I couldn't see spending the rest of my life  
With my head hung down in shame you know  
I might have been born just plain white trash  
But Fancy was my name

Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down  
Said here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down

It wasn't long after a benevolent man  
Took me in off the street  
And one week later I was pourin' his tea  
In a five room hotel suite

I charmed a king, congressman  
And the occasional aristocrat  
Then I got me a Georgia mansion  
In an elegant New York townhouse flat  
And I ain't done bad

Now in this world there's a lot of self-righteous  
Hippocrates  
That would call me bad  
They criticize Mama for turning me out  
No matter how little we had

But though I ain't had to worry 'bout nothin'  
For nigh on fifteen years

I can still hear the desperation in my poor  
Mama's voice ringin' in my ear

Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down  
Here's your one chance Fancy don't let me down

Lord, forgive me for what I do  
But if you want out well it's up to you  
Now don't let me down  
Your Mama's gonna help you uptown  
Uptown oh oh

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