

## **Lou Reed**

# **"Harry's Circumcision"**

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Looking in the mirror Harry didn't like what he saw  
The cheeks of his mother the eyes of his father  
As each day crashed around him the future stood  
revealed  
He was turning into his parents  
The final disappointment

Stepping out of the shower Harry stared at himself  
His hairline receding the slight overbite  
He picked up the razor to begin his shaving  
and thought oh I wish I was different

I wish I was stronger I wish I was thinner  
I wish I didn't have this nose  
These ears that stick out remind me of my father  
and I don't want to be reminded at all  
The final disappointment

Harry looked into the mirror thinking of Vincent Van  
Gogh  
and with a quick swipe lopped off his nose

And happy with that he made a slice where his chin was  
He's always wanted a dimple  
The end of all illusion  
Then peering down straight between his legs  
Harry thought of the range of possibilities  
A new face a new life no memories of the past  
and slit his throat from ear to ear

Harry woke up with a cough the stitches made his  
wince  
A doctor smiled at him from somewhere across the  
room  
Son we saved your life but you'll never look the same  
And when he heard that, Harry had to laugh  
Although it hurt Harry had to laugh  
The final disappointment

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