

## **Lou Reed**

# **"The Blue Mask"**

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They tied his arms behind his back  
To teach him how to swim  
They put blood in his coffee  
And milk in his gin

They stood over the soldier  
In the midst of the squalor  
There was war in his body  
And it caused his brain to holler

Make the sacrifice  
Mutilate my face  
If you need someone to kill  
I'm a man without a will

Wash the razor in the rain  
Let me luxuriate in pain  
Please, don't set me free  
Death means a lot to me

The pain was lean and it made him scream  
He knew he was alive  
He put a pin through the nipples on his chest  
He thought he was a saint

I've made love to my mother  
Killed my father and my brother, what am I to do?  
When a sin goes too far, it's like a runaway car  
It cannot be controlled

Spit upon his face and scream  
There's no Oedipus today  
This is no play you're thinking you are in  
What will you say

Take the blue mask down from my face  
And look me in the eye  
I get a thrill from punishment  
I've always been that way

I loathe and despise repentance  
You are permanently stained

Your weakness buys indifference  
And indiscretion in the streets

Dirty's what you are  
And clean is what you're not  
You deserve to be soundly beat

Make the sacrifice  
Take it all the way  
There's no 'Won't' high enough  
To stop this desperate day

Don't take death away  
Cut the finger at the joint  
Cut the stallion at his mount  
And stuff it in his mouth

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