

**Mark King****"What It Is - Extended"**

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The drinking dens are spilling out  
There's staggering in the square  
There's lads and lasses fall about  
And a crackling in the air  
Down around the dungeon doors  
The shelters and the queues  
Everybody's looking for  
Somebody's arms to fall into  
It's what it is  
That's's what it is now

There's frost on the graves and the monuments  
But the taverns are warm in town  
People curse the government  
And shovel hot food down  
The lights are out in the city hall  
The castle and the keep  
The moon shines down upon it all  
The legless and the sleepless

Cold on the tollgate  
With the wagons creeping through  
Cold on the tollgate  
God knows what I could do with you  
That's's what it is  
It's what it is now

The garrison sleeps in the citadel With the ghosts and  
the ancient stones  
High on the parapet a Scottish piper stands alone  
And high on the wind The highland drums begin to roll  
And something from the past just comes and stares  
into my soul

Cold on the tollgate let the drums beat the tattoo  
Cold on the tollgate God knows what I can do with you  
And it's what it is  
It's what it is now  
What it is  
's What it is now

And the highwayman stands blowing on his fingers by  
the green  
I've walked inside his shoes before so I always buy his  
magazine  
He's with a local mystery with blood stains on her  
hands  
I like the way she winks at me but I leave her with the  
highwayman

And it's cold on the tollgate with the Caledonian Blues  
Cold on the tollgate God knows what I could do with  
you  
And it's what it is  
It's what it is now  
What it is  
It's what it is now

There's a chink of light, there's a burning wick  
There's a lantern in the tower  
Wee Willie Winkie with a candlestick  
Still writing songs in the wee wee hours  
On Charlotte Street I take A walking stick from my hotel  
The ghost of Dirty Dick Is still in search of Little Nell  
And it's what it is  
It's what it is now  
Oh what it is  
What it is now now now

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