

Eric Woolfson

"The Devil I Know"

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VIRGINIA:

This husband of mine, serene and sublime,
Quintessence of devil-may-care
Takes all in his stride what air may be tied
'Til somebody sits in his chair

He's a prince of a man, as meek as a lamb
As long as he gets his own way
But disturb his repose or tread on his toes
And there'll be the devil to pay

When he's good, he's exemption
He's bad, well, don't mention
But which way's the wind going to blow
Should I stay with the devil or be on my way?
I don't know...

So I dust myself down, dress myself up
And look like the belle of the ball
The birds in the trees may fall to their knees
But he doesn't notice at all

But if he should deceive me,
Or hurt me, believe me
I'm perfectly willing to go
Far away

LADIES:

Far away from the devil

VIRGINIA:

Away

LADIES:

Far away from the devil

VIRGINIA:

Far away from the devil I know

LADIES:

He's a little devil, he's a little devil

He's a little devil I know

VIRGINIA:

Stay with me

Play with me

Why must you leave me alone?

His antics amaze in so many ways

I wouldn't know where to begin

If dinner's at eight and he gets home late

Well guess who's in trouble: not him!

But on some sunny morning

I give you fair warning

I might pack my suitcase and go

So don't take me for granted

I'm not just a string to his bow

Show me a man with no faults at all

Such creatures don't really exist

But show me a man who's loving and true

I'll cross this one right off my list

So I'll never displease him,

Scold him or tease him

He's kind, and I won't let him go

So I'll stay with the devil

LADIES:

Stay, stay with the devil

VIRGINIA:

Stay with the devil

LADIES:

Stay, stay with the devil

VIRGINIA:

Stay with the devil I know

Though his bark is alarming

His charm is disarming

But unnecessarily so

For I'll stay with the devil

LADIES:

Stay, stay with the devil

VIRGINIA:

Stay with the devil

LADIES:

Stay, stay with the devil

VIRGINIA:

Stay with the devil

Cross my heart on a level

I'll stay with the devil I know!

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