

# Lay Your Wager Down

Ellis Paul

You're my flesh and blood  
But we're not the same  
A common name  
And now  
A common distance I looked up to you  
In your plush armchair  
Respect or fear  
I couldn't see the difference Lay your wager down  
Who'll be king in tinsel town?  
'cause all the prophets and the gypsies  
On the strip in venice beach  
Have looked me in the eye  
And said, "your dreams still lie in reach"  
And who am I to doubt them  
And who are you  
To write these speeches? Is it my poverty  
That brings a blush to you?  
Or the honesty  
That speaks the mind  
That comes with it Were you once a man  
With younger eyes  
A hungry pride  
That would not feel  
Resistance? Lay your wager down  
They're crowning the king in tinsel town  
There are strangers, there are lovers  
Out on fairfax in a line  
They look me in the eye  
And say "our thoughts are intertwined"  
And who am I to doubt them?  
And who are you to tear down  
These signs?

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