Crime for Crime

Ani DiFranco

Big day has come, bell is sounding
I run my hands through my hair one last time
Outside the prison walls town is gathering

People are trading crime for crimeEveryone needs to see the prisoner they need to make it even easier

They see me as a symbol and not a human being

That way they can kill me, say it's not murder, it's a metaphor

We are killing off our own failure and starting cleanStanding at the gallows everyone turned my way

I hear a voice ask me if I've any last words to say

I'm looking out over the field of familiar eyes

And somewhere in a woman's arms the baby criesAnd I say guilt and innocence they are a matter of degree

What is justice to you might not be justice to me

I went too far, I'm sorry, I guess now I'm going home

So let he amongst you cast the first stoneYeah, now a days we have all kinds of complicated machines So no one person ever has to have blood on their hands

We've complex organizations, if everyone just does their job

No one person ever has to understandYeah, you might be the wrong color, yeah, you might just be too poor

Justice isn't something just anyone can afford

Yeah, you might not pull the trigger, you might be out in the car

You might get a lethal injection 'cause we take metaphor that farThe big day has come and my bell is sounding

And I run my hands through my hair one last time

Outside the prison walls the town has gathered

People are trading crime for crimePeople are trading crime for crime

People are still trading crime for crime, yeah

People are still trading crime for crimePeople are still trading crime for crime, yeah

People are still trading crime for crime, oh yeah

People are still trading crime for crime

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