

# Between the Lines

**Janis Ian**

There's never much to say between the moments of  
Our games and repartee  
There's never much to read between the lines of  
What we need and what we'll take  
There's never much to talk about or say aloud  
But say it anyway  
Of holidays and yesterdays, and broken dreams  
That somehow slipped away  
In books and magazines of how to be and what to see  
While you are being  
Before and after photographs teach how to pass  
From reaching to believing  
We live beyond our means on other people's dreams  
And that's succeeding  
Between the lines of photographs I've seen the past  
It isn't pleasing  
So strike another match we'll have another cup of wine  
And dance until the evening's dead of too much song and time  
There's never much to talk about or read between the lines  
Of what we dream about when we're apart  
And no one's looking on to say you're mine  
It was a good year then, it was a good year then, we all remember  
The time you threw the looking glass and seemed a fool or very clever  
Don't spoil it all, I can't recall a time when you were  
Struck without an answer  
We'll live a quiet peaceful time between the lines and go together  
And I'm striking up the band to play our last  
hurrah  
We'll dance until we've killed another evening off  
Don't think of anyone but me, I'll have no lovers on the side  
Tonight is all we've ever dreamed about for once let's get it right  
We'll go down flying in the end  
Through another bottle in between the lines  
I'll go down like a ship of state  
Let's be gracious now between the lines

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