

# Running Man (Live 1981)

Al Stewart

Before the phone hits the receiver  
you're halfway to the door  
the voice said "get out while you can,  
theres just 10 minutes, nothing more"  
Time for only the essentials, better gather them and run  
The false name inside the passport, the gold bars and the gun.  
And once again they've come out of the past  
and though your mind is cool, your heart's beating fast  
You've been through it all before  
each time you wish a little more than you can ask."what do you want from me?  
What do you need from me?  
There's no rest for the running man  
Why can't you let him be?"Its a long and twisting journey, from the sweeping northern plains,  
to the outcrops of the jungle bowed beneath the tropic rains  
In the customs hall the officer takes you to one side  
and his eyes reveal no feeling as you hand over the bribe  
And once again you've bought a little time  
And once again you're fading out of sight  
Still the fox is growing older, as he calls over your shoulder to the  
nightHere, come over here..beneath a sympathetic moon  
we'll sit and talk over old times without a fear  
another beer, from the cafes of the night  
the tumbling rhythms of guitars ring loud and clearOne by one they've nailed the others, but you always got  
away  
What it is that keeps you just that step ahead, no one can say  
in one last raid the agents of the dawn break down the door  
of a house where you were standing maybe just an hour before  
and still the thread continues to unwind  
you take the hidden roads that only you can find  
and should they come upon your tracks  
theres just a question hanging back you left behind"what do you want from me? What do you need from me?"

Songwriters

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