

# I Wonder What the King Is Doing Tonight

Richard Burton

I know what my people are thinking tonight  
As home through the shadows they wander  
Everyone smiling in secret delight  
They stare at the castle and ponder  
Whenever the wind blows this way  
You can almost hear everyone say I wonder what the king is doing tonight?  
What merriment is the king pursuing tonight?  
The candles at the court, they never burned as bright  
I wonder what the king is upto tonight? How goes the final hour as he sees his bridal bower  
Being regally and legally prepared?  
Well, I'll tell you what the king is doing tonight  
He's scared, he's scared You mean that a king who fought a dragon  
Hacked him in two and fixed his wagon  
Goes to be wed in terror and distress? Yes A warrior who's so calm in battle  
Even his armor doesn't rattle  
Faces a woman petrified with fright? Right You mean that appalling clamoring  
That sounds like a blacksmith hammering  
Is merely the banging of his royal knees? Please You wonder what the king is wishing tonight?  
He's wishing he were in Scotland fishing tonight  
What occupies his time while waiting for the bride?  
He's searching high and low for some place to hide And oh, the expectation, the sublime anticipation  
He must feel about the wedding night to come  
Well, I'll tell you what the king is feeling tonight  
He's numb, he shakes, he quails, he quakes  
And that's what the king is doing tonight

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