

# Brilliant Mistake

## Elvis Costello

He thought he was the King of America  
Where they pour Coca Cola just like vintage wine  
Now I try hard not to become hysterical  
But I'm not sure if I am laughing or cryingI wish that I could push a button  
And talk in the past and not the present tense  
And watch this hurtin' feeling  
Disappear like it was common senseIt was a fine idea at the time  
Now it's a brilliant mistakeShe said that she was working for the ABC News  
It was as much of the alphabet as she knew how to use  
Her perfume was unspeakable, it lingered in the air  
Like her artificial laughter, her mementos of affairs"Oh", I said, "I see you know him  
Isn't that very fortunate for you?"  
And she showed me his calling card  
He came third or fourth and there were more than one or twoHe was a fine idea at this time  
Now he's a brilliant mistakeHe thought he was the King of America  
But it was just a boulevard of broken dreams  
A trick they do with mirrors and with chemicals  
The words of love in whispers and the acts of love in screamsI wish that I could push a button  
And talk in the past and not the present tense  
And watch this lovin' feeling  
Disappear like it was common senseI was a fine idea at the time  
Now I'm a brilliant mistakeI was a fine idea at the time  
Now I'm a brilliant mistake

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