...Dust

Elvis Costello

If dust could only talk
What would we hear it say?
Before it's brushed aside
Just as it's swept awayIt's just the evidence
It's of no consequence
It's only flesh and bone
Why don't we leave it alone?If dust could only gather into lines of chalk
Around a silhouette detective fiction walks
For it's the only witness that can testify
Can I spit out the truth or would you rather just swallow a lie?Why did they dam the land?
How did they flood the plain?
Did they erase the name
And wipe away the stain?
You kept your mouth well shut
Appeared to turn your coat
Now there's a name for you but it's stuck in my throatIf dust could only mutter
Or in laughter trill
If it could warn and whisper from the windowsill
For it's the only witness that can testify
Can I spit out the truth or would you rather just swallow a lie?Here comes the juggernaut
Here come The Poisoners
They choke the life and land
And rob the joy from us
Why do they taste of sugar
When they are made of money?
Here come the Lamb of God
And the butcher's boy, SonnyIf dust could only gather in a needle track
Then it would skip a beat and it would jump right back
If dust could only gather in a needle track
Then it would skip a beat
And all the sense I lack

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