

When I Was King

Graham Parker

Pre>capo at 2 intro: ? ?G g c em

When I was king I was not really the man I am now

G am g c

I was like anyone sitting on a throne made out of china

G g c em

When I was king I had already abdicated

C am g c

Already melted my crown down to sell as scrap

C

But they'd run the first run of stamps

D g

People had cashed in their post office savings

C d c

To buy some and lick the back of my neck

(c) d

I just let them get on with it arrange the coronation

G c

I just didn't turn up, I just didn't turn up You became queen to a regime of fixed ideas

The subjects just outlines like figures in a shadow cabinet

And then we ruled over some green and pleasant land

With a frog and a princess not necessarily in that order But if you want it to be what you want it to be

You'll have to dethrone me or have me decapitated

I didn't want to be king anyway I always preferred to hang out

With the servants, the servants

When I was king

When I was king there was no country left to rule

Jesters and fools were leaders all of them a royal pain

Now I'm a serf but I'm still trying to be a king

But putting the crown on is like putting a silk purse on a sow's ear

And if I want it to be like I want it to be

I'll have to assassinate someone with a guitar as a gun

On it's good to be king I know that I've been there

G g

Many, many, many, many kingdoms ago when I was king

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