

Death Of A Ladies' Man

Leonard Cohen

Ah, the man she wanted all her life was hanging by a thread

"I never even knew how much I wanted you," she said

His muscles they were numbered and his style was obsolete

Oh baby, I have come too late she knelt beside his feet I'll never see a face like yours in years of men to come

I'll never see such arms again in wrestling or in love

And all his virtues burning in the smoky holocaust

She took unto herself most everything her lover lost Now the master of this landscape he was standing there at the view

With a sparrow of St. Francis that he was preaching to

She beckoned to the sentry of his high religious mood

She said, "I'll make a place between my legs, I'll show you solitude" He offered her an orgy in a many mirrored room

He promised her protection for the issue of her womb

She moved her body hard against a sharpened metal spoon

She stopped the bloody rituals of passage to the moon She took his much admired oriental frame of mind

And my heart of darkness alibi, his money hides behind

She took his blond Madonna and his monastery wine

This mental space is occupied and everything is mine He tried to make a final stand beside the railway track

She said, "The art of longing's over and it's never coming back"

She took his tavern parliament, his cap, his cocky dance

She mocked his female fashions and his working class mustache Now, the last time that I saw him he was trying hard to get

A woman's education but he's not a woman yet

And the last time that I saw her she was living with some boy

Who gives her soul an empty room who gives her body joy So the great affair is over but whoever would have guessed

It would leave us all so vacant and so deeply unimpressed

It's like our visit to the moon or to that other star

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