

# 20% Amnesia

## Elvis Costello

"What is your destiny?", the policewoman said  
(20% amnesia)  
The word that she wanted was destination, I'm afraid  
(20% amnesia)  
This is your future, boy, this is your fate  
(20% amnesia)  
And you're obsolete and they can't afford to educate you  
(20% amnesia)  
In his bedtime Bootboy jersey  
Ringin' up some fantasy tart  
Give me strength or give me mercy  
Life intimidates art  
Give me strength or give me mercy  
Don't let me lose heart  
From rage to anesthesia  
20% amnesia  
Were you passed out on the sofa  
(20% amnesia)  
While justice is bartered by a drunken oaf?  
(20% amnesia)  
This is all your glorious country thinks of your life  
(20% amnesia)  
Stripped Jack naked with a Stanley knife  
(20% amnesia)  
So the German Queen went home again  
But she couldn't find forgiveness  
They made a fist of her hand of friendship  
That is only business  
Give me strength or give me mercy  
Don't let me lose heart  
From rage to anesthesia  
  
20% amnesia  
The wine you drink has never seen a grape  
And now your sci-fi suit has lost its shape  
But it's a dangerous game that comedy plays  
Sometimes it tells you the truth, sometimes it delays it  
Think back, think back if you still can  
When the trumpet soundin' and the world began

Somebody said we must have won  
So they started burying the bogeyman  
Mr.Gorbachev came cap in hand  
(20% amnesia)  
From a bankrupt land to a bankrupt land  
(20% amnesia)  
Mr.Gorbachev and some other fella  
(20% amnesia)  
Were taken to a show called 'Cinderella'  
(20% amnesia)  
It wasn't an accident, it wasn't a mystery  
(20% amnesia)  
It was calculated and the rest is history  
(20% amnesia)  
You don't have to listen to me  
That's the triumph of free will  
There are promises to break  
And dreams to kill  
Give me strength or give me mercy  
Don't let me lose heart  
From rage to anesthesia  
20% amnesia

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