Smuggler's Blues

Jack Tempchin

There's trouble on the streets tonight
I can feel it in my bones, I had a premonition
That he should not go aloneI knew the gun was loaded
But I didn't think he'd kill
Everything exploded, and the blood began to spillSo baby, here's your ticket
Put the suitcase in your hand, here's a little money now
Do it just the way we planned
You be cool for twenty hours, and I'll pay you twenty grandI'm sorry it went down like this
And someone had to lose, it's the nature of the business
It's the smuggler's blues, smuggler's bluesThe sailors and pilots, the soldiers and the law
The pay-offs and the rip-offs and the things nobody saw
No matter if it's heroin, cocaine, or hash
You've got to carry weapons, 'cause you always carry cashThere's lots of shady characters, lots of dirty deals
Ev'ry name's an alias, in case somebody squeals
It's the lure of easy money, it's got a very strong appealPerhaps you'd understand it better
Standin' in my shoes, it's the ultimate enticement
It's the smuggler's blues, smuggler's bluesYou see it in the headlines, you hear it ev'ry day
They say they're gonna stop it but it doesn't go away
They move it through Miami, sell it in L.A.
They hide it up in Telluride, I mean it's here to stayIt's propping up the governments in Columbia and Peru
You ask any D.E.A. man, he'll say there's nothin' we can do
From the office of the President
Right down to me and you, me and youIt's a losing proposition but one you can't refuse
It's the politics of contraband
It's the smuggler's blues, smuggler's blues

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