Chewing Gum

Elvis Costello

With their cardboard hands by their sides

Here's a naked man and lady

And they're yours to cut out and keep

So you can dress them up, maybeAnd they don't know just who they are

Or who they're supposed to be

You can make them happy or sad

Or assume their identitySo here they are in the departure lounge

It's the 'Gateway to the East'

She is just another mail-order bride

She doesn't know he's a kinky beastNow he gives her a picture of Maradona and child

She wants to roll and rock

As he spills his beer over her

Bumps and he grinds, as he repeats, "Bang-Cock"There must be something that is better than this

It starts with a slap and ends with a kiss

Begins with you bawling and it ends up in tears

Oh, my little one, take that chewing gum out of your earsShe might as well be in the jungle

She might as well be on the moon

He's away on a business trip in Dusseldorf

But she's becoming immuneTo the lack of glamor and danger

In a West-German city today

The nearest she comes to the 'Dynasty' like he promised her

Is a Chinese take-awayAh, there must be something that is better than this

It starts with a slap and ends up with a kiss

Begins with you bawling and it ends up in tears

Oh, my little one, take that chewing gum out of your earsThough he only taught her three little words

It doesn't matter if they're dirty or clean

He can only control what they look like

He can never possess what they meanSo he wants to whisper in her ear

All the shrinking nothingness

Something always comes between them

I wonder if you can guessThere must be something that is better than this

It starts with a slap and ends up with a kiss

Begins with you bawling and it ends up in tears

Oh, my little one, take that chewing gum out of your ears

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