

# I Threw Away the Rose

**Merle Haggard**

Once I lived the life of wine and roses  
And I drank a lot back then for one concern  
Success for me lay just around the corner  
I thought my social friends would help me make the turn But now I'm paying for the days of wine and roses  
A victim of the drunken life I chose  
Now all my social friends look down their noses  
'Cause I kept the wine and threw away the rose I stood by and watched the bottle take control of me  
The turn I made was not the one I'd planned  
And I watched my social standings slip away from me  
While I watched the bottle slowly take command And now I'm paying for the days of wine and roses  
A victim of the drunken life I chose  
Now all my social friends look down their noses  
'Cause I kept the wine and threw away the rose  
'Cause I kept the wine and threw away the rose

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