

Plainclothes Man
Elliott Smith

A great Elliott Smith song from Heatmiser s Mic City Sons. I believe that on the recording the song is played tuned a step down, but to me it sound fine in standard tuning.

[Verse 1]

Am

You re everybody s second home

Am/B (Just Am works here, too)

Always trying to get me alone

C **D** **F**
An easy way to lose it all

Am

Always there when all else fails

Am strum **D**, then **F**
Over by the west side rails

(same as verse chords progression)

But I don t really need that now
I never really did anyhow
I only really needed alcohol
Something that ll treat me okay
And wouldn t say the things you d say

[Chorus]

Fm **E**
Please turn out the light

D
I get a sick confusion headache trying

Am
to figure out who s right

[Verse 2]

(same as verse 1)

Dreaming on the silver strand
Waking up to plainclothes man
You little bastard, little boy in blue
Someone s gonna get to you
And fuck up everything you do

He s so unhappy inside
He s serious with everyone
And he thinks he ll win you with his angry kiss
Acting like he has no needs

Wanting you to watch him bleed

[Bridge]

C **G** **F** **C**
Made for each other bet you pay me any mind
G **D** **F**
Just goes to show my continual decline
C **G** **F** **C**
They say that I ll recover my love of her once in a while
Dm
But I don t know
Fm
I don t think so...

[Verse 3]

(same as verse 1)

There s something that I ll tell you now
Now that no one else is around
The sort of lesson that I learned from you
Not quite the way you planned
But I know you ll understand

Someone takes a photograph
A picture while their sweetheart laughs
A perfect moment in a flash of light
Counting back from 3 to 1
That s exactly what you ve done

Fm **E**
And I m so unsurprised
D **C**
I remember, I remember why I dream in black & white

G **D** **F**
Goes to show my continual decline
C **G** **F** **C**
They say that I ll recover my love of her once in a while
Dm
But I don t know
Fm
I don t think so

[Outro]

Am D Fm Am