

Joe Porterhouse  
Elvis Costello

**Bm** **E**  
The children sat upon the stairs  
**A** **D** **A** **D**  
High above a valley of tears  
**Bm** **E** **A** **D**  
Don t let them see you crying that way oh no

**Bm** **E**  
Oh no Joe Porterhouse  
**A** **D**  
Is not gone forever  
**A** **D**  
He ll be back another day  
**Bm** **E** **A**  
Don t let them see you crying that way

Chorus:

**D** **D/G D/F# D/G D**  
Please don t wake him let him sleep  
**D** **D/G D/F# D/G D**  
It s a moment she can keep  
**D** **D/G D/F# D/G D** **Am**  
Like an old bus tick - et or a photograph  
**D** **D/G D/F# D/G**  
Resting on the man - tle - piece  
**D** **D/G D/F# D/G D**  
While for the wicked there is no peace  
**D**  
She says it s not his time to go  
**Am** **Am Bm C**  
Why we were nearly lovers years ago  
**Am Bm C A**  
Now what is left for me  
**D** **Em Fm D G G F# Em**  
Among the broken branches of the family tree

**A D**

Heart like an anchor  
Arms like cable  
He stood all alone on an iron turntable  
Don t let them see you crying that way oh no  
The sun beats down  
It s cracking the flags  
Boys who should know better  
Are stamping out fags  
Don t let them see you laughing that way

## Chorus

Oh no Joe Porterhouse  
Is not gone forever  
He ll be back another day  
Don t let them see you crying that way

**A B Am(/C)** (repeat and fade)