

The Beat

Elvis Costello

Bm G A Bm x2

D Bm G A/C#

We re all going on a summer holiday

D Bm G A/C#

Vigilante s coming out to follow me.

D Bm G A/C#

Heard somebody say they re out to collar me.

D Bm G A/C#

Anybody wanna swallow me?

Bm G A Bm x2

Bm G A Bm

It takes two to tumble. It takes two to tango.

Bm G A Bm

Speak up; don t mumble if you re in the combo.

Bm G A Bm Bm G

On the beat, on the beat.

A Bm

Till a man comes along and he says,

G D/F# Em7 G/D A/C# G/B A

Have you been a good boy, never played with your toy?

G D/F# Em7 D G A/C# G/B D E

Though you never en---joy, such a pleasure to employ.

D A/C# E

See your friends in the state their in.

D A/C# E

See your friends getting under their skin.

D A/C# E

See your friends getting taken in.

D Bm G A/C#

Well, if you only knew the things you do to me.

D Bm G A/C#

I d do anything to confuse the enemy.

D Bm G A/C#

There s only one thing wrong with you befriending me.

D Bm G A/C#

Take it easy. I think you re bending me.

D Bm G A/C#

I ve been a bad boy with the standard leader.

D Bm G A/C#

My neighbor s revving up his Vauxhall Viva.

Bm G **A Bm** **Bm G**
 On the beat, on the beat.
A **Bm**
 Till a man comes along and he says,
G **D/F# Em7** **G/D** **A/C#** **G/B** **A**
 Have you been a good boy, never played with your toy?
G **D/F# Em7** **D** **G A/C#** **G/B D E**
 Though you never en---joy, such a pleasure to employ.

D **A/C# E**
 See your friends walking down the street.
D **A/C# E**
 See your friends never quite complete.

 See your friends getting under their feet.

D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 Oh, I don t want to disease you,
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 but I m no good with machinery.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 Oh, I don t wanna freeze you.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 Stop looking at the scenery.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 I keep thinking about your mother.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 Oh, I don t wanna lick them.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 I don t wanna be a lover.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 I just wanna be your victim.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 I don t go out much at night.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 I don t go out much at all.
D **Bm** **G** **A/C#**
 Did you think you were the only one
D **Bm**
 who was waiting for a call

Bm G **A Bm** **Bm G**
 On the beat, on the beat.
A **Bm**
 Till a man comes along and he says,
G **D/F# Em7** **G/D** **A/C#** **G/B** **A**
 Have you been a good boy, never played with your toy?
G **D/F# Em7** **D** **G A/C#** **G/B D E**
 Though you never en---joy, such a pleasure to employ.

D **A/C# E**
 See your friends treat me like a stranger.

D A/C# E

See your friends despite all the arrangements.

D A/C# E

See your friends Nothing here has changed.

Bm G

Just the beat.