

**Tramp The Dirt Down**  
**Elvis Costello**

I saw a newspaper picture from the political campaign  
A woman was kissing a child, who was obviously in pain  
She spills w/ compassion, as that young child s face in her hands she grips  
Can you imagine all that greed and avarice coming down on that childs lips  
Well I hope you don t die too soon  
I pray the Lord my soul to save  
Oh I ll be a good boy, I ll try so hard to behave  
Because there s one thing I know, I d like to live long enough to savor  
That s when they finally put you in the ground  
I ll Stand on your grave and tramp the dirt down  
When England was the whore of the world Margaret was her madam  
And the future looked as brigh and as clear as the black tarmacadam  
Well I hope that she sleeps well at night, isn t haunted by every tiny detail  
Cos when she held that lovely face in her hands all she thought was betrayal  
And now the cynical ones say that it all ends  
the same in the long run  
Try telling that to the desperate father who just  
squeezed the life from his only son  
And how it s only voices in your head and  
dreams you never dreamt  
Try telling him the subtle difference between  
justice and contempt  
Try telling me she isn t angry with this pitiful  
discontent  
When they flaunt it in your face as you line up  
for punishment  
And then expect you to say Thank you  
straighten up, look proud and pleased  
Because you ve only got the symptoms, you  
haven t got the whole disease  
Just like a schoolboy, whose head s like a tin-can  
filled up with dreams then poured down

the drain

Try telling that to the boys on both sides, being  
blown to bits or beaten and maimed  
Who takes all the glory and none of the shame

Well I hope you live long now, I pray the Lord  
your soul to keep  
I think I ll be going before we fold our arms  
and start to weep  
I never thought for a moment that human life  
could be so cheap  
Cos when they finally put you in the ground  
They ll stand there laughing and tramp the  
dirt down

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Don t feel as though you have to play all the chords, I change it up every time  
and just play what feels right, hope you all enjoy :)