

IN THE SHADOWS OF THE KING

Music & Lyrics: Mike Appel © 2004

There was music in the air, in Memphis that night
I'm not sure how many takes; it took 'em to get it right
They'd unleashed their soul's rhythm; and it was anything but polite
Those cats rocked like proud Peacocks, in a world of black 'n' white

The sound was a bit country, crossed with the blues of the South
It had precious little airplay, and hardly any word of mouth
But America had Elvis, its first singin'-bad-boy-roustabout
What Sun Records began to whisper, the world would soon shout

Hearin' that playback echo, gave 'em all the goose bumps
They'd finally crossed the threshold, and man were they ever pumped
And God that guy, he could sing

Now I stand here In The Shadows Of The King
I am standin' In The Shadows Of The King

In the twinkling of an eye, came the birth of rock 'n' roll
With its side-burned poster boy, every female's centerfold
A sex symbol for the ages, and starring in King Creole
All his RCA records gone platinum, and certified gold

He had a guitar case jammed with desire, and some eighteen carat gold dreams
Elvis went the distance for the rest of us, so that the music would be redeemed

He was my everything
Now I stand here In The Shadows Of The King
Yes I am standin' In The Shadows Of The King

But I've found myself and my heart beats to its own special drum
I've searched my soul high and low and found my own place here in the sun
I made a pledge for the rest of my life, to be the best that I could become

Now I'm 2000 miles from Graceland, in the footlights of center stage
In this Las Vegas casino's dazzling and mirrored gilded cage
As the past rushes in on me here where Elvis was all the rage
Yes, somehow I still feel anxious and just a little bit upstaged

But God give me the drive to fulfill my own true destiny
'Cause the greatest singer that ever lived is lookin' down and he's rootin' for me, I know he is

Of Thee I sing
Yes I stand here In The Shadows Of The King
I am standin' In The Shadows Of The King
The world's undisputed Rock 'n' Roll King

I am standing, In The Shadows Of The King
Long Live The King!