

When I Knew

Eleanor Friedberger

I could see the tops of her white socks
Just beneath the desk
Her pants didn't reach all the way down her legs
And you know what happened next
I said hi politely and we went to time for coffee

Yeah yeah yeah that was when I knew
That was when I knew I was wrong wrong wrong all along
That was when I knew, yeah
That was when I knew

They said we both write weird music
And she played me Soft Machine
And lent me a record that badly warped which screwed up everything
I was broke, just fifteen
I scoured London for a replacement
I found it cheap in an Oxford Street basement

Yeah yeah yeah that was when I knew
That was when I knew I was wrong wrong wrong wrong
That was when I knew, yeah
That was when I knew

I met her in my bedroom
Oh at a party, Halloween
And she was wearing a pair of overalls
So I sang "Come On Eileen"
I was being slightly mean
And that just made her smile
Which made me feel childish

Yeah yeah yeah that was when I knew
That was when I knew I was wrong wrong wrong
That was when I knew, yeah
That was when I knew

We played a song for scratch that night
And when she done up singing
She just took off, stage left
And left us there winging it
The band went down swinging
As she made her exit, arms in the air
I caught her eye, I was unprepared

When I couldn't get her out of my head
So I got her out of hers instead
No I couldn't get her out of my head
So I got her out of hers instead
I know I couldn't get her out of my head
And then we ended up in...

She glided by on antique roller skates
And overtook our car
Just down the street
Up from where we parked
Just south of Market
In the Castro sun she seemed to glisten

And when she spoke I listened

Yeah yeah yeah that was when I knew
That was when I knew I was wrong wrong wrong
That was when I knew, yeah
That was when I knew