

## Meet Me in the Alleyway

Steve Earle

I had a melancholy malady  
Went to see the doctor and the doctor say  
Too bad, nothin' he could do  
He knew a man in Louisiana if I'm willin' to pay  
Laid my money on the barrelhead

Man behind the bar began to shimmy and shake  
Can't lie, I reckoned I was dead  
When he picked my money up and I heard him say  
Meet me in the alleyway minute to midnight  
Don't be late meet me in the alleyway  
Better come runnin' the spirits won't wait  
Thirteen tiger teeth in my talisman  
St. John the Conqueror and a black cat bone  
Been seen walkin' with the guardians  
Now I'm in the alley and I'm all alone  
Can't run, can't hide from destiny  
Knew this day was callin' nearly all of my life  
Been done ain't the only boy from Tennessee  
To carve his name in cypress with a jawbone knife

So you wanna be the king of America  
Say you wanna know the oracle's mind  
Say you wanna see the Marquesses of Mardi Gras  
dancin' with the devil at the end of the line