

The Monkey

Elvis Costello

The monkey speaks his mind

Now three monkeys sat in a coconut tree
Discussing things as they are said to be
Said one to other, now listen, you two
There's a certain rumour that just can't be true
That man descended from our noble race
Why, the very idea is a big disgrace
Yeah
No monkey ever deserted his wife
Starved her baby and ruined her life

Yeah

The monkey speaks his mind

And you've never known a mother monk
To leave her babies with others to bunk
And pass them on from one to another
'Til they scarcely knew which was their mother

Yeah

The monkey speaks his mind

And another thing you will never see
A monkey build a fence around a coconut tree
And let all the coconuts go to waste
Forbidding other monkeys to come and taste
Why, if I put a fence around this tree
Starvation would force you to steal from me

Yeah

The monkey speaks his mind

Here's another thing that a monkey won't do
Go out on a night and get all in a stew
Or use a gun or a club or a knife
And take another monkey's life
Yes, man descended, the worthless bum
But, brothers, from us he did not come

Yeah

The monkey speaks his mind

Yeah

Now the monkey speaks his mind