

# The Other Side of Summer

Elvis Costello

The sun struggles up another beautiful day  
And I felt glad in my own suspicious way  
Despite the contradiction and confusion  
Felt tragic without reason  
There's malice and there's magic in every season

From the foaming breakers of the poisonous surf  
The other side of Summer  
To the burning forests in the hills of Astro turf  
The other side of Summer

The automatic gates close up between the shanties and the palace  
The blowtorch amusements, the voodoo chalice  
The pale pathetic promises that everybody swallows  
A teenage girl is crying 'cos she don't look like a million dollars  
So help her if you can  
'Cos she don't seem to have the attention span

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Was it a millionaire who said "imagine no possessions"?  
A poor little schoolboy who said "we don't need no lessons"?  
The rabid rebel dogs ransack the shampoo shop  
The pop princess is downtown shooting up  
And if that goddess is fit for burning  
The sun will struggle up the world will still keep turning

Madman standing by the side of the road saying  
"Look at my eyes, look at my eyes, look at my eyes, look at my eyes"  
Now you can't afford to fake all the drugs your parents used to take  
Because of their mistakes you'd better be wide awake

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The mightiest rose  
The absence of perfume  
The casual killers  
The military curfew  
The cardboard city  
An unwanted birthday  
The other side of summer

The dancing was desperate, the music was worse  
They bury your dreams and dig up the worthless  
Goodnight  
God bless  
And kiss "goodbye" to the earth  
The other side of summer