

## See a Friend in Tears

Momus

So men are still at war in Ireland  
For certain songs and certain dates  
The tender gave way to the firebrand  
And Europe gave way to the States

So now that money's all but scentless  
Noses and consciences are clear  
The pointless flowers can be dispensed with  
But see a friend in tears

So our defeats are just reminders  
Of death that waits behind it all  
The body wilts before the mind does  
Surprised to see how soon it falls

It's true our women have deceived us  
All hunted species disappear  
It's true we've shot the golden eagles  
But see a friend in tears

It's true our cities are exhausted  
Made by and for the middle aged  
Our weakness gave them more than force did  
We thought that love could cure a toothache

And in the underground we're drowning  
Accelerating through the years  
You who think you'll find the truth by frowning  
See a friend in tears

It's true our mirrors don't show heroes  
We lack the courage to be Jews  
Without the elegance of Negroes  
With our youthful fireworks all defused

And all these men who are our brothers  
Wonder why we don't want to hear  
How their worst enemies are their lovers  
See a friend in tears