

# Elvis Costello, Riot Act

Forever doesn't mean forever anymore  
I said forever  
But it doesn't look like I'm gonna be around much anymore  
When the heat gets sub-tropical  
And the talk gets so topical

[Chorus:]  
Riot act - you can read me the riot act  
You can make me a matter of fact  
Or a villain in a million  
A slip of the tongue is gonna keep me civilian

Why do you talk such stupid nonsense  
When my mind could rest much easier  
Instead of all this dumb dumb insolence  
I would be happier with amnesia

They say forget her  
Now it looks like you're either gonna be for me or against me  
I got your letter  
Now they say I don't care for the colour that it paints me  
Trying to be so bad is bad enough  
Don't make me laugh by talking tough  
Don't put your heart out on your sleeve  
When your remarks are off the cuff

[Chorus]