

# Dan Bern, Too Late To Die Young

The day the Elvis died  
Was like a mercy killing  
America breathed  
A sigh of relief  
We knew all about the drugs  
And the Vegas shows  
And there wasn't much of anything  
That looked like grief  
And I guess he shoulda done  
Like James Dean did  
'Stead of putting on weight  
And sinking down, down, down  
Easier to take  
If he had just skidded straight  
To souvenir city  
And T-shirt town  
And sometimes I wish  
I was smarter that I am  
But I'm on my 3rd city  
And I'm on my 4th car  
And I'm on my 5th apartment  
And so many of my days have sprung  
And now it's too late to crash  
Too late to burn  
Too late to die young  
If Pete Rose had exploded  
Like Roberto Clemente  
He'd be hanging in the Hall of Fame  
Without fail  
Can you name the last good film  
Marlon Brando made  
While trying to keep his kid  
From going to jail  
And the old people  
On the street are telling you  
"Don't become like me"  
But every day  
You creep a little bit closer  
And I guess we shoulda done  
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