

# Elvis Costello, Let Him Dangle

Bentley said to Craig "Let him have it Chris";  
They still don't know today just what he meant  
by this

Craig fired the pistol, but was too young to swing  
So the police took Bentley and the very next thing

Let him dangle

Let him dangle

Bentley had surrendered, he was under arrest,  
when he gave Chris Craig that fatal request  
Craig shot Sidney Miles, he took Bentley's word  
The prosecution claimed as they charged them  
with murder

Let him dangle

Let him dangle

They say Derek Bentley was easily led  
Well what's that to the woman that Sidney  
Miles wed

Though guilty was the verdict, and Craig had  
shot him dead

The gallows were for Bentley and still she  
never said

Let him dangle

Let him dangle

Well it's hard to imagine it's the times that  
have changed

When there's a murder in the kitchen that is  
brutal and strange

If killing anybody is a terrible crime

Why does this bloodthirsty chorus come round  
from time to time

Let him dangle

Not many people thought that Bentley would  
hang

But the word never came, the phone never rang  
Outside Wandsworth Prison there was horror  
and hate

As the hangman shook Bentley's hand to  
calculate his weight

Let him dangle

From a welfare state to society murder

Bring "back the noose" is always heard

Whenever those swine are under attack

But it won't make you even

It won't bring him back

Let him dangle

Let him dangle (String him up)