

# Nellie McKay, Testify

As we approach fair weather  
As we entertain our maiden endeavor  
'Round us still the chorus beats  
The schools, the streets  
There's always danger there

For men will divest  
Only to a certain point  
For each divines their own experience  
And to our own  
We must attest

They say authority's essential  
They are insincere  
They say discipline is fundamental  
You will perservere  
And when you've lost your fear  
Then that's when you must

Testify  
Raise your hands up to the sky  
Clouds are comin' closer, but a-don't you cry  
Because you ain't got time  
Just keep on strivin', testifyin'

Testify  
Raise your hands up to the sky  
Clouds are comin' closer, but a-don't you cry  
Because you ain't got time  
Just keep on strivin', testifyin'

As you pack the tools of past illusions  
You have lost your nerve  
Set them near you, lest they cause confusion  
Keep some in reserve  
To get what you deserve

You're gonna have to

Testify  
Raise your hands up to the sky  
Clouds are comin' closer, but a-don't you cry  
Because you ain't got time  
Just keep on strivin', testifyin'

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Mama, you got me my corduroy jeans  
"Do your own laundry if you want them clean"  
Mama, the workload they're puttin' me through  
"Like I don't know"

Mama, you got me history books  
"Yeah, and I thought me I'd take me a look"  
But doesn't matter what you do or say  
Because it ain't my history anyway

Feast or famine, you're cryin' at the disco  
You have lost your way

The peace they were plannin' died in San Francisco  
Floating on the bay  
Just close your eyes and pray  
Then stand up straight and

Testify  
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Because you ain't got time  
Just keep on strivin', testifyin'