

Stiff Little Fingers, The Cosh

Everything is turning upside down in this town
The crime rate's rising up as employment swoops down
Kids can't trust their parents to protect them no more
And if you're black or Irish you just can't trust the law

Winos on the corner with no hope and no plan
Kids on 5 quid drug deals waiting for their man
Estates in states of chaos, hatred scrawled on the walls
The men of law and order writhe about on the floor
No-one dream of living, those hopes lie on the rocks
Your newly detached haven is a cardboard box

(Chorus:)

And it seems, and it seems
Someone's used the cosh and the country's on its knees

Old folk freeze to death in flats where damp streams down the walls
Poll tax bailiffs scream unheard in countless council halls
Plans for new development that never cure the mess
Benefits that won't be paid unless you've an address
And no-one dream of living, those hopes lie on the rocks
Your newly detached haven is a cardboard box

(Chorus)

Our Welfare State's collapsing and no-one seems to care
As long as money's being made and profits there to share
Buy into a service that belonged to you and me
Soon you'll find our country is the UK pic

And no-one dream of living, those hopes lie on the rocks
Your newly detached haven is a cardboard box

(Chorus)

Down on its knees, down on its knees
Someone's used the Cosh and the country's down on its knees
Down on its knees, down on its knees