Society's got us by the you-know-what we've been livin' way too high

We got champagne taste and a beer pocketbook and it's all we can do to get by

I keep sayin' I'll never bring it up again but I just can't keep still

Whoever heard of people poor as us drive a Cadillac Coupe DeVille

We wear fancy clothes that we can't anyway afford than anything else we do

There outta be a law against livin' this way when we need little things like food

And I'm gonna have to spend my birthday money to pay the telephone bill

That's what I get for feeling the kind of hopes I can't afford to fill

Cause society's got us by the you-know-what...

And we can't afford this kind of rent but I know you wouldn't move

And who am I kiddin' I wouldn't either this is what you call in a groove

Oh it's our little way of feelin' big when you can't be big for real

And we do deserve these material things we just can't pay the bills

We're afflicted with a love and high class dreams and we can't afford to dream

But knowin' all that and doin' somethin' bout it are two different things

Cause society's got us by the you-know-what... Yes society's got us by the you-know-what... Yes society's got us by the you-know-what...