They're So Tough

John Mellencamp

They're so tough They like to make us feel little They like to make us feel small And keep us down Till we feel no good at all

Then they tell us that we're stupid That we got no sense at all They'll keep away the spark Keep us in the dark Make us feel we have no vision at all

No, no, no, I don't believe it has to be this way No, I don't believe it has to be this way

Then they tell us to be patient That our time will come But I've stood outside their doors And walked their floors And I ain't gonna do it again

They'd like to make me their nigger I say to hell with them I'm not gettin' down on my knees And beggin', please Can you throw me a crumb now and then?

No, no, no, I don't believe it has to be this way No, I don't believe it has to be this way

I can't really speak to you And I don't know about them They must be out of their minds Can't read between the lines They can stick it where the sun don't shine

No, no, no, I don't believe it has to be this way No, I don't believe it has to be this way

They're so tough They are so tough