

# Ticking

## Elton John

"An extremely quiet child" they called you in your school report  
"He's always taken interest in the subjects that he's taught"  
So what was it that brought the squad car screaming up your drive  
To notify your parents of the manner in which you died. At St. Patrick's every Sunday, Father  
Fletcher heard your sins  
"Oh, he's unconcerned with competition, he never cares to win"  
But blood stained a young hand that never held a gun  
And his parents never thought of him as their troubled son. "Now you'll never get to Heaven"  
Mama said.  
Remember Mama said  
Ticking, ticking  
"Grow up straight and true blue  
Run along to bed"  
Hear it, hear it, ticking, ticking.  
They had you holed up in a downtown bar screaming for a priest  
Some gook said "His brains just snapped" then someone called the police  
You'd knifed a Negro waiter who had tried to calm you down  
Oh, you'd pulled a gun and told them all to lay still on the ground. Promising to hurt no-one,  
providing they were still  
A young man tried to make a break, with tear-filled eyes you killed  
That gun butt felt so smooth and warm cradled in your palm  
Oh, your childhood cried out in your head, "They mean to do you harm". "Don't ever ride on the  
devil's knee" Mama said  
Remember Mama said  
Ticking, ticking  
"Pay your penance well, my child  
Fear where angels tread"  
Hear it, hear it, ticking, ticking. Within an hour the news had reached the media machine  
A male Caucasian with a gun had gone berserk in Queens'  
The area had been sealed off, the kids sent home from school  
Fourteen people lying dead in a bar they called the Kicking Mule.  
Oh, they pleaded to your sanity for the sake of those inside  
"Throw out your gun, walk out slow just keep your hands held high"  
But they pumped you full of rifle shells as you stepped out the door  
Oh, you danced in death like a marionette on the vengeance of the law. "You've slept too long in  
silence" Mama said  
Remember Mama said  
Ticking, ticking  
"Crazy boy, you'll only wind up with strange notions in your head"  
Hear it, hear it, ticking, ticking.  
Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

Lyrics provided by <http://counterlikes.com/>