## **Black Rose**

## Black 47

Mister Frankie Diamond was my best friend

We were partners in a business down on C and 7th

Nothin' ever got this good brother down

He was a real live wire in an electric townFrankie started hangin' with an uptown girl

A Harlem lady in the social whirl

On Saturday night he'd put on his best clothes

And go out steppin' with his Black RoseNow Frankie went upstate for a couple of years

A guest of the nation and he was in tears

He called me up, he said, "Hey friend of mine

I got one favor to ask you while I'm doin' my time"She's the Queen of New York City

She bewitch all men soul

She the blood that flow right through me

So don't be messin' with my Black Rose

Keep your hands off my Black Rose

My Black Rose, he don't own yaWhile Frankie was upstate, his Harlem girl

Continued to spiral in her social whirl

So I paged her from my gig on East 7th I said

"Hey, babe, you doin' anythin' 'round about 11?" She said, "Uh uh", in her uptown voice

So we met at Beirut for cocktails and ice

When she crossed that room in her tight red dress

I wasn't thinkin' of Frankie, I have to confessShe said, "Hey, best friend, let's go back to my place

I need to fix my mascara and remodel my face"

But it rained on the way back to her house

And when she closed the door she took off her blouseShe's the Queen of New York City

She bewitch all men soul

Next thing I know, I'm whisperin' sweet nothin's

Lyin' in bed with my Black Rose

I'm makin' love to my Black

My Black Rose, he don't own yaSo stay with me tonight

At nights I'd lie there and listen to her breathe

With the sweat on my brow

How could she sleepSo deep, so sweet, as calm as a rock

While I pushed back the seconds oozing from the clock

Now the letters I wrote Frankie returned unread

The word leaked out, I'd be better off deadBut in the crimson dawn, Black Rose would unfold

And drain all the poison from my soul

Now I'm standin' up here on forty deuce

Another terminal man waitin' for his busHere come Frankie with his head all shaved

Is that a piece in his pocket or is it a blade

Now I'm lyin' face down in the terminal dirt

With a hole in my chest, but I don't feel no hurtI don't wanna go to heaven, I been there before

Just spent two years in paradise with my Black RoseShe's the Queen of New York City She bewitch all men soul

When you go and find her body

Bury me next to my Black RoseStill in love with my Black Rose

She's up in heaven now, my Black Rose

You won't be makin' love to my Black

My Black Rose, he don't own yaSo stay with me tonight, for the rest of your life Roisin Dubh, me no can get over you

A time is in me mind no matter what I do

Roisin Dubh me no can get over youNow Frankie comin' back and I know that I am through Mister Frankie Diamond tell me do the right thingWatch his girl while he away at Sing Sing

But me and Rosie, we have a little fling

Now Frankie comin' home, wicked trouble it will bring Wicked trouble it will bring, Lord have mercy

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