

DUTY FREE

When you travel across the sea, with your briefcase and your passport, oh:
What will you bring for a duty free - to show that you remember me?

I will bring a pretty pretty thing, Home to my love so dear, oh.

Love is not as cheap as you think it, with your briefcase and your passport, oh:
It can't be bought for some useless trinket – why, I couldn't even smoke or drink it.

Then love of mine, a bottle of wine I will bring with the pretty pretty thing,
Home to my love so dear, oh.

Is that all that I mean to you, with your briefcase and your passport, oh:
Will a bottle of plonk keep your true love true – is that the best that you can do?

Two litres of still table wine, a litre of spirits or strong liqueur,
with alcohol more than twenty two degrees
Or more than this if bought tax paid in the European Communities:
All this I will bring with the pretty pretty thing
Home to my love so dear, oh.

Do you think that that's enough, with your briefcase and your passport, oh:
You treat me like your little bit of fluff – surely I'm worth a lot more stuff?

Fifty grams of pure perfume, a quarter of a litre of toilet water
Two fifty grams of pipe tobacco, two hundred cigarettes or fifty cigars
Two litres of still table wine, a litre of spirits or strong liqueur,
with alcohol more than twenty two degrees
Or more than this if bought tax paid in the European Communities:
All this I will bring with the pretty pretty thing
Home to my love so dear, oh.

On second thoughts I'll come with you, with my handbag and my passport, oh.
Then I'll be sure that my true love's true – and we'll bring home enough for two:

A hundred grams of pure perfume, a half a litre of toilet water
Five hundred grams of pipe tobacco, four hundred cigarettes or a hundred cigars
Four litres of still table wine, two litres of spirits or strong liqueur,
with alcohol more than twenty two degrees
Or more than this if bought tax paid in the European Communities:
All this we will bring with the pretty pretty thing
Home to my love so dear, oh.

Written to be done as a duet, but often performed solo. Although the song is my own the content owes something to some nameless officials in what used to be H M Customs and Excise.