

# I'd Rather Love What I Cannot Have Than Have What I Cannot Love



Words and Music by *Elsie Janis*

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ELSIE JANIS

Moderato

I'm feel - ing blue, dis - cour - aged, too,  
I great - ly fear, I'm rath - er queer, I

*mf quasi Harp* *p* *p*

You dont mind if I should tell my woes to you?— I had a beau  
dont want an - y oth - er man to call me 'dear',— The boys all say,

I loved him so, Now he's gone a - way, but where I do not know  
though he's a - way, That is no ex - cuse for me to pine all day.

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All day I sigh and al-most cry, Though there are a lot of fel-lows  
They say he's met an-oth-er pet, And if I will try that I can

right near by; — Some de - clare they love me and  
soon for - get; — I tell them I'm con - tent - ed and

ask me for my hand, When I try to tell them, they don't  
do not care to try, Then if they per - sist I simp - ly

un - der - stand, So I say to them in sweet - est tones. —  
tell them why I shall be an old maid when I die. —

Refrain

I would rath - er love what I can - not have than have what I can - not

love; I would rath - er be, 'just a friend of his', Than an - y oth - er fel - lows' tur - tle

dove? I would rath - er have him a - buse me, Than an -

oth - er call me 'an - gel from a - bove'; I would rath - er love what I

can - not have Than have what I can - not love. I would love.