

Fly Dream of a Casino Soul

*Between 1972 and 1981 poet and raconteur
Nelly 'the Floater' Pledge was an ace face on
the Northern Soul scene.*

Yeah I was there
Cleethorpes Winter Gardens
Spring Bank Holiday nineteen seventy-six
me Dave Blake
Kolla Ozzie Dek
all that lot
while the squares herded into the bars
at Tiffanys Ballroom
supping lukewarm Double Diamond from chunky pint mugs
shaking their shoulders to Tiger Feet
we were flying on chalkies and banging on bombers
backdroppin frontdroppin spinnin and
splittin to Changing of the Guard
by Queenie Buckingham and the Big Ben Chimes

outtasight

August same year
when the squares were dossing in their bedsits
toking Red Leb
appreciating Tarkus through their hi-fi padded headphones
we were at the Stoke Torch anniversary all-nighter
sweat soaked beer towels
intravenous sulph
backdroppin frontdroppin spinnin and
splittin to Your Love Comes On (Like a Bengal Tiger)
by Rudy and the Sahibs

keep on keepin on

I had the original on Tall Story
off Longsight Lennie for thirty quid
he was a face back then nineteen seventy-six
imagine what it would be worth now
I flogged it to make the Dean Parish weekender
he's dead now

right on brother

When the squares were sewing LUFC patches
on their faded Wrangler jackets
humming the theme to van der Valk
I was tumbling off the balcony
smashed on barbs
right in the middle of Scoob's second set