

“I remember helping out at the time in my father-in-law’s (father of 1st wife, Jaye Posner and granddad of Marjorie and Ellie Diamond) haberdashery shop (1967). Business was slow to allow me to write a country ballad – or so I thought, until I heard UB40’s version. It was about drinking wine, which I hardly do, and forgetting, which I occasionally attempt. I wrote ‘Red, Red Wine’ just to keep busy while waiting for customers and never gave a thought to it ever being recorded by anyone, much less by me.” – ND (1996)

RED, RED WINE  
NEIL DIAMOND

Red, red wine  
Go to my head  
Make me forget that I  
Still need her so

Red, red wine  
It's up to you  
All I can do, I've done  
But memories won't go  
No, memories won't go

I'd have sworn that with time  
Thoughts of you would leave my head  
I was wrong, and I find  
Just one thing makes me forget

Red, red wine  
Stay close to me  
Don't let me be alone  
It's tearing apart  
My blue, blue heart

I'd have sworn that with time  
Thoughts of you would leave my head  
I was wrong, and I find  
Just one thing makes me forget

Red, red wine  
Stay close to me  
Don't let me be alone  
It's tearing apart  
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Neil Diamond 1972  
Album: Hot August Night