

Proud to Stand Beside the Man

Paul N. Dion / Allen M. Dion

A forty-year obligation and a lifetime of success.
A love so strong, it knew no bounds. That's what my life was all about.

And some critics judged me harshly. They could not see what I'm worth.
Now I leave here, my head held high, a leader in the church.
There is no need for reflection unless doubts linger behind.
And now, my heart is sure, my work endures,
Fond memories they flood my mind.

And I was proud to stand beside this man.
The only path we had to reach our shared plan.

Early on, it was my pleasure to provide for his success.
My mission found, I stood my ground but wondered, should I do it on my own?
One thing is clear. Many tried to stop me.
My own doubts would haunt me.
It was my decision to follow my own vision.
Defy the rules and fight, many shadows to control.

(musical interlude)

In a different situation, as a woman, I'd be free.
On equal ground, I'd stand alone to know the wonder
Of how it feels to be the Pope!
I know for sure, no one could prevent me.
Many might resent me.
Always my decision to follow my own vision.
I've won and lost some fights,
Saw the shadows of the night. But walked in God's warm light.
No more shadows to control.