

LYRICS

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TITLE: Carter Girl

LABEL: Rounder

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Little Black Train

There's a little black train a comin'
Set your business right
There's a little black train a comin'
And it may be here tonight

Go tell that ballroom lady
All dressed in the worldly pride
That death's dark train is comin'
Prepare to take a ride

God sent to Hezekiah
A message from on high
You'd better set your house in order
Or you must surely die

Oh he turned to the wall and weeping
We see him here in tears
He got his business fixed all right
God spared him fifteen years

There's a little black train a comin'
Set your business right
There's a little black train a comin'
And it may be here tonight

We see that train with engine
And one small baggage car
Your idle thoughts and wicked deeds
Will stop at the judgment bar

That poor young man in darkness
Cares not for the gospel light
Till he suddenly heard the whistle blow
With the little black train in sight

There's a little black train a comin'

Set your business right
There's a little black train a comin'
And it may be here tonight

Give Me the Roses

Wonderful things of folks are said
When they have passed away
Roses adorn their narrow bed
Over the sleeping clay

Give me the roses while I live
Trying to cheer me on
Useless are flowers that you give
After the soul is gone

Kind words are useless when folks lie
Cold in a narrow bed
Don't wait 'til death to speak kind words
Now should the words be said
Give me the roses while I live
Trying to cheer me on
Useless are flowers that you give
After the soul is gone

Let us not wait to do good deeds
'Til they have passed away
Now is the time to sow good seeds
While here on earth we stay
Give me the roses while I live
Trying to cheer me on
Useless are flowers that you give
After the soul is gone

Give me the roses while I live
Trying to cheer me on
Useless are flowers that you give
After the soul is gone

After the soul is gone
After the soul is gone
After the soul is gone

Me and the Wildwood Rose

In my grandma's house her children would sing
Guitars a twangin' their laughter would ring
I was little but I was the biggest kid
I wanted to do what the grown-ups did

In a big shiny car we'd head down the road
To sing for the miners who brought out the coal
Many a time I slept on the floorboard cold
On a quilt with my little sister
The Wildwood Rose

And if I could change a thing in this world
I'd go back to the days
When grandma and her girls
We're singing sweet and low
For me and the Wildwood Rose

We'd be way down the road by the break of dawn
Biscuits and gravy and a truck stop song
In a world all my own I saw what I saw
In the rear view mirror
I'd get a wink from my grandma

And if I could change a thing in this world
I'd go back to the days
When grandma and her girls
We're singing sweet and low
For me and the Wildwood Rose
A lee a o a lee a o o lay dee who
A lee o lay dee

Oh I'll always remember the day that she died
My daddy he called me and he started to cry
I rode on an airplane with all of my pain
My tears would not stop
We stood in a circle and sang

And if I could change a thing in this world
I'd go back to the days
When grandma and her girls
We're singing sweet and low

For me and the Wildwood Rose
For me and the Wildwood Rose
For me and the Wildwood Rose

For me and the Wildwood Rose
A lee a o
A lee a o lay dee who

Blackie's Gunman

I was known as Blackie's gunman

The best of gunman in the land
I could shoot the ace of diamonds
With a draw from either hand

With the dice I had no equal
Some of them are with us now
Most of them are sadly sleeping
'Neath the weeping willow bough

Many a cowboys came oft late in
Left that night with all her gold
As a sport I was broken
As a sport I let it go

I once loved a girl, named Nellie
How we loved, no tongue can tell
But I know I'll never meet her
Oh it was hard to say farewell

Her eyes were like the deep blue water
And her hair was golden curled
And her cheeks were crimson velvet
And her teeth were snow-white pearls

Together we lived in a cottage
And our life it was a dream
And the angels, they watched o'er us
Made our life one happy dream

I'll Be All Smiles Tonight

I'll deck my brow with roses
My true love may be there
And gems that others gave me
Will shine within my hair
And even those that know me
Will think my heart is light
Though my heart may break tomorrow

I'll be all smiles tonight

I'll be all smiles tonight love
I'll be all smiles tonight
Though my heart may break tomorrow
I'll be all smiles tonight

And when the room he entered
The bride upon his arm
I stood and gazed upon him
As though he were a charm
And then he smiled upon her
As once he smiled on me
They knew not what I suffered
They found no change in me

I'll be all smiles tonight love
I'll be all smiles tonight
Though my heart may break tomorrow
I'll be all smiles tonight

And when the dance is over
And all have gone to rest
I'll think of him, dear mother
The one I loved the best
He once did love, believe me
But now he's cold and strange
He sought not to deceive me
False friends have brought this change

I'll be all smiles tonight love
I'll be all smiles tonight
Though my heart may break tomorrow
I'll be all smiles tonight

Poor Old Heartsick Me

Poor old heartsick me
Twice as lonely as a girl ought to be
What will the future be
For poor old heartsick me

I thought that I was immune
To that big yellow moon
With its magic that all lovers know
In the moonlight it's hard

To keep a heart on guard
Against love that's waiting to grow
Held so close in your arms
All my cares for alarm
Just rolled off like the waves in the sea
When you cast me aside
I just broke down and cried
Poor old heartsick me

Poor old heartsick me
Twice as lonely as a girl ought to be
What will the future be
For poor old heartsick me

It's apparent to me
God made Adam for Eve
Just the same as He made you for me
What if Adam like you had gone off rambling, too
What kind of a world would this be
You don't want to admit
That you, too, have been bit
By that love bug, but golly gee
Why don't you realize,
You just mean paradise
For poor old heartsick me

Poor old heartsick me
Twice as lonely as a girl ought to be
What will the future be
For poor old heartsick me
For poor old heartsick me
For poor old heartsick me

Troublesome Waters

Troublesome waters
Much blacker than night
Are hiding from view
The harbor's bright light
Tossed in the turmoil
Of life's stormy sea
I cried to my Savior
Have mercy on me

Then gently I'm feelin'
The touch of His hand

Guiding my boat in
Safely to land leading the way
To heaven's bright shore
Where troublesome waters
I'm fearing no more

Troublesome waters
Are rolling so high
I'll lift up my voice
And to heaven I'll cry
Lord, I am trusting
Give guidance to me
And steady my boat
On life's troubled sea

Gently I'm feelin'
The touch of His hand
Guiding my boat in
Safely to land and leading the way
To heaven's bright shore
Where troublesome waters
I'm fearing no more

Gently I'm feelin'
The touch of His hand
Guiding my boat in
Safely to land leading the way
To heaven's bright shore
Where troublesome waters
I'm fearing no more

Lonesome Valley 2003

I woke to the sound of my baby sister
Crying like the day she was born
'Cause an angel of mercy, dressed all in white
Came and said, "Girls, your Momma's passed on"
So I gathered my children around me
Through our tears we found a prayer
Talked to God and Jesus and all them guys
I knew momma was already there

Everybody's gotta walk that lonesome valley
You've gotta walk it by yourself
Ain't nobody here can walk it for you
You've gotta walk it by yourself

Well Junie never knew a stranger
She was friendly like that
So we stood with our relations
And a bunch of strangers dressed in black
Me and Rosey wore bright colors
Momma woulda liked it like that
We laid her near her momma
Sang 'Circle Be'
She always said she wanted that
Everybody's gotta walk that lonesome valley
You've gotta walk it by yourself
Ain't nobody here can walk it for you
You gotta walk it by yourself

Life goes by in a blink of the eye
Your body's just a suitcase for your soul
And when I lay my head down tonight
I know they're right there smiling down on me

I went back home to see my family
'Cause family keeps you strong
But Johnny just cried 'cause Junie had died
He didn't care to carry on
So we laid him next to Momma
'Neath a rose covered ground
Sang "Anchored in Love" and "Peace in the Valley"
Oh the sweetest sound

Everybody's gotta walk that lonesome valley
You've gotta walk it by yourself
Ain't nobody here can walk it for you
You've gotta walk it by yourself
You've gotta walk it by yourself

Tall Lover Man

Two lovers stood in the white, white sand
A dark-eyed maiden and her tall lover man
With surprise and pain in her eyes
She clung to the hand of her tall lover man

They're lyin' to me, aren't they, Jim?
She asked him
That fair-haired girl with those blue, blue eyes
Is not your wife, is she Jim?

And with tears in her eyes and her sad, sad cries
She clung to the hand of her tall lover man

In the darkness, he let go of her hand
I'm not to blame, it was a game
'Cause that fair-haired woman is my wife
And she will be all of my life

You're lyin' to me, aren't you Jim?
She asked him
If lovin' me was sport, then your life shall be short
She said to him, my Jim
And the blade of the maid struck the man
And the blood flowed in the sand from her tall lover man

Two lovers lyin' in the white, white sand
I'll die with you, my tall lover man
And her blade found its mark in the dark
She clung to the hand of her tall lover man

They're lyin' to me, aren't they, Jim?
She asked him
That fair-haired girl won't be your wife
Will she Jim?
And with tears in her eyes and sad, sad cries
She died in the sand with her tall lover man

Gold Watch and Chain

Darling, how can I stay here without you?
I have nothing to cheer my poor heart
This old world would seem sad, love, without you
Tell me now that we're never to part

I will pawn you my gold watch and chain, love
I will pawn you my gold wedding ring
I will pawn you this heart in my bosom
Only say that you'll love me again

Take back all the gifts you have given
But a ring and a lock of your hair
And a card with your picture upon it
It's a face that is false but is fair

I will pawn you my gold watch and chain, love
I will pawn you my gold wedding ring

I will pawn you this heart in my bosom
Only say that you'll love me again

Tell me why that you do not love me
Tell me why that your smile is not bright
Tell me why you have grown so cold-hearted
Is there no kiss for me, love, tonight?

I will pawn you my gold watch and chain, love
I will pawn you my gold wedding ring
I will pawn you this heart in my bosom
Only say that you'll love me again

Black Jack David

Black Jack David came a riding through the woods

And he sang so loud and gaily

Made the hills around him ring

And he charmed the heart of a lady
And he charmed the heart of a lady

How old are you my pretty little miss?
How old are you my honey?
She answered him with a silly little smile

"I'll be sixteen next Sunday"
"I'll be sixteen next Sunday"

Come go with me my pretty little miss

Come go with me my honey

I'll take you across the deep blue sea

Where you never shall want for money
Where you never shall want for money

She pulled off her high-heeled shoes

They were made of Spanish leather

She put on those low-heeled shoes

They both rode off together
They both rode off together

Last night I lay on a warm feather bed

Beside my husband and baby

Tonight I lay on the cold, cold ground

By the side of Black Jack David
By the side of Black Jack David

I Ain't Gonna Work Tomorrow

Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
And I may not work next day
Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
For it'll be a wet, rainy day

(Helen)

Well, I hang my head in sorrow
And I hang my head and cry
I'll hang my head in sorrow
As my darling passes me by

(Anita)

Well, he told me that he loved me
And it gave my poor heart ease
Now he's got his back turned on me
And he's courting whoever he please

Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
And I may not work next day
Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
For it'll be a wet rainy day

(Carlene)

Well, I lost my money in gambling
And I lost my name you see
I am nobody's darling
And nobody cares for me

(June)

Don't you hear those banjos ringing
Don't you hear that mournful sound
Don't you hear those pretty girls laughing

Dancing on the cold, cold ground

Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
And I may not work next day
Well, I ain't gonna work tomorrow
For it'll be a wet, rainy day