

Tecumseh Valley

Townes Van Zandt

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The name she gave was Caroline

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Daughter of a miner

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And her ways were free

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And it seemed to me

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That sunshine walked beside her

She came from Spencer Across the hill She said her pa had sent her Cause the coal was low And soon the snow Would turn the skies to winter

She said she'd come
To look for work
She was not seeking favors
And for a dime a day
And a place to stay
She'd turn those hands to labor

But times were hard, Lord And jobs were few All through Tecumseh valley But she asked around And a job she found Tending bar at Gypsy Sally's

She saved enough to get back home When spring replaced the winter But her dreams were denied Her pa had died The word came from Spencer

She turned to whorin' out on the streets With all the lust inside her And many a man Returned again To lay himself beside her

They found her down beneath the stairs
That led to Gypsy Sally's
In her hand when she died
A note that cried
Fare thee well
Tecumseh valley