Coal Tattoo

Hazel Dickens

Travelin' on down that coal town road
Listen to my rubber tires whine
Goodbye to buckeye and white sycamore
I'm leavin' you behindOh, I've been a coal miner all my life
Layin' down track in a hole
Got a back like ironwood, bent by the wind
Blood veins as blue as the coal
Blood veins as blue as the coalWell, somebody said, That's a strange tattoo
You have on the side of your head
I said, That's a blue mark left by the coal
Little more and I'd a been deadOh, I love the rumble and I love the dark
Lord, I love the cool of the slate
But it's going down that new road lookin' for a job
Travelin' and lookin I hate
Travelin' and lookin I hateSome day when I'm dead and gone
To heaven the land of my dreams
I won't have to worry bout losin' my job
To bad times and big machinesOh, I got no house Lord, I got no job
Just got a worried soul
And a blue tattoo on the side of my head
Left by the number nine coal
Left by the number nine coal

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