Walt Whitman's Niece

Billy Bragg & Wilco

Last night or the night before that

And I wont say which night

A seaman friend of mine

And Ill not say which seaman

Walked up to a big old building

And I wont say which buildingAnd would have not walked up the stairs

Not to say which stairs

If there had not been two girls

Leaving out the names of those two girlsI recall a door, a big long room

And Ill not tell which room

I remember a deep blue rug

But I cant say which rug

A girl took down a book of poems

Not to say which book of poemsAnd as she read, I laid my head

And I cant tell which head

Down in her lap

And I can't mention which lapMy seaman buddy and his girl moved off
After a couple of pages

And there I was, all night long

Laying and listening and forgetting the poemsAnd as well as I could recall

Or my seaman buddy could recollect

The girl had told us that she was a niece

Of Walt Whitman, but not which nieceAnd it takes a night and a girl

And a book of this kind

A long, long time to find its way backLast night or the night before that

And I wont say which night

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If there had not been two girls

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