Folk Bloodbath

Josh Ritter

Louis Collins took a trip out west
And when he returned little Delia'd gone to rest
The angels laid her away
Louis said to Delia, "That's the sad thing with life"
"People always leaving just as other folks arrive"
The angels laid her away
When the people heard that Delia was dead
All them gentlemen they dressed in red
The angels laid her away
The angels laid her away
Laid her six feet under the clay
The angels laid her away
Louis went downtown for a new suit of clothes
Gonna dress up for Delia like a fine red rose
The angels laid him away
He brought a ten-gallon stetson it was oxblood red
Then Stackalee shot Louis in the back of the head
The angels laid him away
Stackalee said to Louis, "Oh now, don't you grieve"
"I'm sending you to Delia you won't ever have to leave"
The angels laid him away

The angels laid him away
Laid him six feet under the clay
The angels laid him away
The judge was a mean one, his name was "Hangin' Billy Lyons
He said, "You've always been a bad man, Stack, you're gonna hang this time"
The angels laid him away
And the jailer said to Stackalee, "What's the problem with you?"
"Oh, jailer, Louis Collins ghost brought Delia's with him too"
The angels laid him away
The angels laid him away
Laid him six feet under the clay
The angels laid him away
They buried little Delia in the churchyard deep
Louis Collins at her head, Stackalee at her feet
The angels laid them away
And out of Delia's bed came briars, out of Louis' bed a rose
And out of Stackalee's came Stackalee's cold lonely little ghost

The angels laid them away
And I'm looking over rooftops and I'm hoping that it ain't true
That the same God looked out for them looks out for me and you
The angels laid them away

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