Knoxville Girl

Nick Cave

I met a little girl in Knoxville
A town we all know well
And every Sunday evening
In her home I'd dwell
We went to take an evening walk
About a mile from town
I picked a stick up off the ground
And I knocked that fair girl downShe fell down on her bended knees
For mercy she did cry
"Oh willy, dear, don't kill me yet
I'm unprepared to die"
She never spoke another word
I only beat her more
Until the ground around me
With her blood did flowI took her by her golden curls
And I dragged her 'round and 'round
Throwing her into the river
That flows from Knoxville town
Go down, go down, you Knoxville girl
With your dark and roving eyes
Go down, go down, you Knoxville girl
You can never be my brideI started back to Knoxville
Got there about midnight
My mother, she was worried
She woke up in a fright
Saying, "dear son, what have you done
To bloody up your clothes?"
I told my anxious mother
That I was bleeding in my noseI called for me a candle
And I called for me a bed
And I called for me a handkerchief
To bind my aching head
I rolled and thrashed the whole night through
All horrors I did see
The devil stood at the foot of my bed
Pointing his finger at meThey carried me down to Knoxville
And put me in a cell
My friends all tried to get me out
But none could grow my bail

I'm here to waste my life away
Down in this dirty old jail
Because I murdered that Knoxville girl
The girl I loved so well

Songwriters
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