Tin Angel

Bob Dylan

It was late last night when the boss came home
To a deserted mansion and a desolate throne
Servant said: Boss, the ladys gone
She left this morning just fore dawn.
You got something to tell me, tell it to me, man
Come to the point as straight as you can
Old Henry Lee, chief of the clan
Came riding through the woods and took her by the hand
The boss he lay back flat on his bed
He cursed the heat and he clutched his head
He pondered the future of his fate
To wait another day would be far too late
Go fetch me my coat and my tie
And the cheapest labour that money can buy
Saddle me up my buckskin mare
If you see me go by, put up a prayer
Well, they rode all night, and they rode all day
Eastward, long down the broad highway
His spirit was tired and his vision was bent
His men deserted him and onward he went
He came to a place where the light was dull
His forehead pounding in his skull
Heavy heart was racked with pain
Insomnia raging in his brain
Well, he threw down his helmet and his cross-handled sword
He renounced his faith, he denied his lord
Crawled on his belly, put his ear to the wall
One way or another put an end to it all
He leaned down, cut the electric wire
Stared into the flames and he snorted the fire
Peered through the darkness, caught a glimpse of the two
It was hard to tell for certain who was who
He lowered himself down on a golden chain
His nerves were quaking in every vein
His knuckles were bloody, he sucked in the air
He ran his fingers through his greasy hair
They looked at each other and their glasses clinked
One single unit, inseparably linked
Got a strange premonition theres a man close by

Dont worry about him, he wouldnt harm a fly
From behind the curtain, the boss he crossed the floor
He moved his feet and he bolted the door
Shadows hiding the lines in his face
With all the nobility of an ancient race
She turned, she was startled with a look of surprise
With a hatred that could hit the skies
Youre a reckless fool, I could see it in your eyes
To come this way was by no means wise
Get up, stand up, you greedy-lipped wench
And cover your face or suffer the consequence
You are making my heart feel sick
Put your clothes back on, double-quick
Silly boy, you think me a saint
Ill listen no more to your words of complaint
Youve given me nothing but the sweetest lies
Now hold your tongue and feed your eyes
Id have given you the stars and the planets, too
But what good would these things do you?
Bow the heart if not the knee
Or never again this world youll see
Oh, please let not your heart be cold
This man is dearer to me than gold
Oh, my dear, you must be blind
Hes a gutless ape with a worthless mind
Youve had your way too long with me
Now its me wholl determine how things shall be
Try to escape, he cussed and cursed
"Youll have to try to get past me first
Do not let your passion rule
You think my heart the heart of a fool
And you, sir, you can not deny
You made a monkey of me, what and for why?
Ill have no more of this insulting chat
The devil can have you, Ill see to that
Look sharp or step aside
Or in the cradle youll wish youd died
The gun went boom and the shot rang clear
First bullet grazed his ear
Second ball went right straight in
And he bent in the middle like a twisted pin
He crawled to the corner and he lowered his head
He gripped the chair and he grabbed the bed
It would take more than needle and thread
Bleeding from the mouth, hes as good as dead

You shot my husband down, you fiend
Husband? What husband? What the hell do you mean?
He was a man of strife, a man of sin
I cut him down and threw him to the wind
Well this she said with angry breath
You too shall meet the lord of death
It was I who brought your soul to life
Then she raised her robe and she drew out a knife
His face was hard and caked with sweat
His arms ached and his hands were wet
Youre a murderous queen and a bloody wife
If you dont mind, Ill have the knife
Were two of a kind and our blood runs hot
But were no way similar in body or thought
All husbands are good men, as all wives know
Then she pierced him to the heart and his blood did flow
His knees went limp and he reached for the door
His doom was sealed, he slid to the floor
He whispered in her ear: This is all your fault
My fighting days have come to a halt
She touched his lips and kissed his cheek
He tried to speak but his breath was weak
You died for me, now Ill die for you
She put the blade to her heart and she ran it through
All three lovers together in a heap
Thrown into the grave, forever to sleep
Funeral torches blazed away
Through the towns and the villages all night and all day

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