

# River

## Natalie Merchant

Young and strong Hollywood son  
In the early morning light  
This star fell down  
On Sunset Boulevard  
Young and strong beautiful one  
We embraced so close  
Is gone  
Was torn away  
Let the youth of America mourn  
Include him in their prayers  
Let his image linger on  
Repeat it everywhere  
With candles, with flowers  
He was one of ours  
One of ours  
Why don't you let him be?  
He's gone  
We know  
Give his mother and his father peace  
Your vulture's candor, your casual slander  
You murder his memory  
He's gone, we know  
It's nothing but a tragedy  
Lay to rest your soul and body  
Lay beside your name  
Lay to rest your rage  
Your hunger and amazing grace  
With candles, with flowers  
You were one of ours  
One of ours  
I saw cameras expose your life  
I heard rumors explode with lies  
I saw children in tears  
Cry and crowd around the sight  
Of where you had collapsed that day  
Where your last breath and word had been sighed  
Where your heart had burst  
And where you had died  
Where you had died

Where you had died  
I saw how they were lost in grieving  
All half believing if you were gone  
The loss and pain of it  
Crime and the shame of it, you were gone  
It was such a nightmare raving  
"How could we save him from himself?"  
I saw how they were lost in grieving  
All half believing, you were gone  
The loss and pain of it  
Crime and the shame of it, you were gone  
It was such a nightmare raving

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