

# Ballad Of The Devil's Backbone Tavern

Todd Snider

Old Miss Virgy tended bar at this shack out in the hills  
It never made her any money boys but paid of all her bills  
Now she must have been 80 years old but her heart was warm

And her beer was cold  
She gave away more than she ever sold  
Smiling all the time  
I used to sing off in the corner every Friday night  
To a loud crowd of cowboys, bikers and bar room fights  
They were drinking beer, carrying on, not a one of them listening to one of my songs

But old Miss Virgy sang along  
She said she knew 'em all by heart  
And then one night after closing she poured me another beer  
She said "Come on over and sit down you little shit  
I got something you need to hear"

She said "Life ain't easy getting through everybody's gonna make things tough on you  
But I can tell you right now if you dig what you do, they will never get you down"  
She said life's too short to worry  
Life's too long to wait  
Too short not to love everybody  
Life's too long to hate

I meet a lot of men who haggle and finagle all the time  
Trying to save a nickel or make a dime  
Not me, no sireee, I ain't got the time  
Now I ain't seen Ol' Virgy in must have been about ten years  
I've been bumming around this country singing my songs for tips and beers

Now the nights are long  
The driving's tough  
Hotels stink, and the pay sucks  
But I can't dig what I do enough, so it never gets be down  
I say life's too short to worry  
Life's too long to wait

Too short not to love everybody  
Life's too long to hate  
I meet a lot of men who haggle and finagle all the time

Trying to save a nickel or make a dime  
Not me, no sireee, I ain't got the time

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