

Tecumseh Valley

Steve Earle

The name she gave was Caroline
A daughter of a miner
And her ways were free
It seemed to me
That sunshine walked beside her
She came from Spencer
Across the hill
She said her pa had sent her
'Cause the coal was low
And soon the snow
Would turn the skies to winter
She said she'd come
To look for work
She was not seeking favors
And for a dime a day
And a place to stay
She'd turn those hands to labor
Ah, but the times were hard, Lord
The jobs were few
All through Tecumseh valley
But she asked around
And a job she found
Tending bar at Gypsy Sally's
She saved enough to get back home
When the spring replaced the winter
But her dreams were denied
Her pa had died
The word come down from Spencer
She took to whorin' out on the streets
With all the lust inside her
And many a man
Returned again
Just to lay himself beside her
They found her down beneath the stairs
That lead to Gypsy Sally's
In her hand when she died
Was a note that cried
"Fare thee well
Tecumseh Valley"

Songwriters

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