

## Loretta Lynn "Van Lear Rose"

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One of my fondest memories  
Was sittin' on my daddy's knee  
Listenin' to the stories that he told  
He'd pull out that old photograph  
Like a treasured memory from the past  
And say child  
This here's the Van Lear Rose

Oh how it would bring a smile  
When he talked about her big blue eyes  
And how her beauty ran down to her soul  
She'd walk across the coal miner's yard  
Them miner's would yell loud and hard  
And they'd dream of who would hold  
The Van Lear Rose

[Chorus]

She was the belle of Johnson County  
Ohio river to Big Sandy  
A beauty to behold like a diamond in the coal  
All the miner's they would gather 'round  
Talk about the man that came to town  
Right under their nose  
Stole the heart of the Van Lear Rose

Now the Van Lear Rose could've had her pick  
And all the fellers figured rich  
Until this poor boy caught her eye  
His buddies would all laugh and say  
Your dreamin' boy she'll never look your way  
You'll never ever hold the Van Lear Rose

[Chorus]

She was the belle of Johnson County  
Ohio river to Big Sandy  
A beauty to behold like a diamond in the coal  
All the miner's they would gather 'round  
Talk about the man that came to town  
Right under their nose  
Stole the heart of the Van Lear Rose

Then one night in mid July

Underneath that ol' blue Kentucky sky  
Well, that poor boy won that beauty's heart  
Then my daddy would look at my mommy and smile  
As he brushed the hair back from my eyes and he'd  
say  
Your mama  
She's the Van Lear Rose

[Chorus]

She was the belle of Johnson County  
Ohio river to Big Sandy  
A beauty to behold like a diamond in the coal  
All the miner's they would gather 'round  
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