

## Mary Chapin Carpenter "Hometown Girl"

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Years ago in my hometown  
I was a headstrong girl and a heart strong one  
We'd ride all summer with the top rolled down  
Through the sleepy streets of that Jersey town

Now I knew girls when I was sixteen  
Could make a smart boy stutter, turn a nice boy mean  
And the boys made the girls into homecoming queens  
Married each other instead of their dreams

These days I'm mostly out on my own  
Looking for someplace that I can call home  
Late at night, or just before dawn  
I pretend you're with me now  
It never seemed so hard before  
What happened to that hometown girl?

The seasons changed in my hometown  
The way they changed in yours  
My windows opened up to the spring  
Like every spring before

And I ran with boys who weren't like you  
I was young but somehow I knew  
The difference between a man and a fool  
Sometimes I think that could have been you

These days I'm mostly out on my own  
Looking for someplace that I can call home  
Late at night, or just before dawn  
I pretend you're with me now  
It never seemed so hard before  
What happened to that hometown girl?

Hometown girls are like hometown dreams  
Some start fading, others stay keen  
I won't forget you but I'll let you be  
Love never was that kind to me

Late at night or just before dawn  
I pretend you're with me now  
You had your madness and you had your charm

But only when your heart allowed  
And my heart just won't allow no more  
What happened to that hometown girl?

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