

## Nick Cave

# "The Ballad Of Robert Moore And Betty Coltrane"

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There was a thick set man with frog eyes  
Who was standing at the door  
And a little bald man with wing-nut ears  
Was waiting in the car  
Well, Robert Moore passed the frog-eyed man  
As he walked into the bar  
And Betty Coltrane she jumped under her table  
"What's your pleasure?" asked the barman  
He had a face like boiled meat  
"There's a girl called Betty Coltrane  
That I have come to see"  
"But I ain't seen that girl 'round here  
For more than a week"  
And Betty Coltrane he had hid beneath the table  
Well, then in came a sailor with  
Mermaids tattooed on his arms  
Followed by the man with the wing-nut ears  
Who was waitin' in the car  
Well, Robert Moore sensed trouble  
He'd seen it comin' from afar  
And Betty Coltrane she gasped beneath the table

Well, the sailor said, "I'm looking for my wife

They call her Betty Coltrain"

The frog-eyed man said, "That can't be

That's my wife's maiden name"

And the man with the wing-nut ears said

"Hey, I married her back in Spain"

And Betty Coltrain crossed herself beneath the table

Well, Robert Moore stepped up and said

"That woman is my wife"

And he drew a silver pistol

And a wicked bowie knife

And he shot the man with the wing-nut ears

Straight between the eyes

And Betty Coltrain, she moaned under the table

Well, the frog-eyed man jumped at Robert Moore

Who stabbed him in the chest

And as Mister Frog-eyes died he said

"Betty, you're the girl that I loved best"

Then the sailor pulled a razor

Robert blasted it to bits

"And Betty, I know you're under the table"

"Well, have no fear," said Robert Moore

"I do not want to hurt you"

"Never a woman did I love me

Half as much as you

"You're the blessed sun, the meek girl  
And you are the sacred moon"  
And Betty shot his legs out from under the table  
Well, Robert Moore went down heavy  
With a crash upon the floor  
And over to his trashin' body  
Betty Coltrain she did crawl  
She put the gun to the back of his head  
And pulled the trigger once more  
And blew his brains out all over the table  
Well, Betty stood up and shook her head  
And waved the smoke away  
Said, "I'm sorry Mr. Barman  
To leave your place this way"  
As she emptied out their wallets she said  
"I'll collect my severance pay"  
Then she winked and threw a dollar on the table

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