

Nanci Griffith

""Deadwood""

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Well, the good times scratched a laugh
From the lungs of the young men
In a Deadwood saloon, South Dakota afternoon
And the old ones by the door with their heads to their
chests
They told lies about whiskey on a woman's breath

Yes, and some tell the story of young Mickey Free
Who lost an eye to a buck deer in the Tongue River
Valley
Oh and some tell the story of California Joe
Who sent word through the Black Hills
'There was a mountain of gold'

And the gold she lay cold in their pockets
And the sun she sets down on the trees
And they thank the Lord for the land that they live in
Where the white man does as he pleases

Some flat shoed fool from the East comes a runnin'
With some news that he'd read in some St. Joseph
paper
And it was "Drinks all around" 'cause the news he was
tellin'
Was the one they called Crazy
Had been caught and been dealt with

And the Easterner he read the news from the paper
And the old ones gathered closer so's they could hear
better
"And it says here that Crazy Horse was killed
While he was trying to escape
And it was some time last September and it don't give
the exact date"

And the gold she lay cold in their pockets
And the sun she sets down on the trees
And they thank the Lord for the land that they live in
Where the white man does as he pleases
Where the white man does as he pleases

Then the talk turned back to whiskey and women

And cold nights on the plains, Lord, and fightin' those
Indians
And the Easterner he says he'll have one more 'fore he
goes
He gives the paper to the Crow boy
Who sweeps up the floor

And the gold still lay cold in their pockets
And the sun still sets down on their trees
And they thank the Lord for the land that they live in
Where the white man does as he pleases
Where the white man does as he pleases
Where the white man does as he pleases
As he wants to, as he pleases

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