

## Nick Cave & The Bad Seed "The Carny"

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And no one saw the carny go  
The weeks flew by  
Until they moved on the show  
Leaving his caravan behind

It was parked out on the south east ridge  
And as the company crossed the bridge  
With the first rain filling the bone dry river bed  
It shone, just so, upon the edge  
Away, away, we're sad, they say

Dog boy, Atlas, Mandrake, the geeks, the hired hands  
There was not one among them  
That did not cast an eye behind  
In the hope that the carny would return to his own kind

The carny left behind a horse, so skin and bone  
That he named Sorrow  
And it was a shallow unmarked grave  
That the old nag was laid  
In the then parched meadow

And it was the dwarves who were  
Given the task of digging the ditch  
And laying the nag's carcass in the ground  
While boss Bellini, waved his smoking pistol around  
Saying "The nag is dead meat, we can't afford to carry  
dead weight"

The whole company standing about  
Not making a sound  
And turning to dwarves perched on the enclosure gate  
The boss says "Bury this lump of crow bait"

And then the rain came thundering down  
Everybody runnin' for their wagons  
Tyin' all the canvas flaps down  
The mangy cats crawlin' in ther cages  
The bird-girl flappin' and squawkin' around

The whole valley reekin' of wet beast  
Wet beast and rotten hay

Freak and brute creation  
All packed up and on their way

The three dwarves peerin' from their wagon's hind  
Moses says to Noah, "We shoulda dug a deeper one"  
Their grizzled faces like dyin' moons  
Still dirty from the diggin' done

And Charlie, the eldest of the three said  
"I guess the carny ain't gonna show"  
And they were silent for a spell  
Wishin' they had done a better job of burying Sorrow

And the company passed from the valley  
Into a higher ground  
The rain beat on the ridge and on the meadow  
And on the mound

Until nothing was left, nothing left at all  
Except the body of Sorrow  
That rose in time  
To float upon the surface of the eaten soil

And a murder of crows did circle round  
First one, then the others flapping blackly down  
And the carny's van still sat upon the edge  
Tilting slowly as the firm ground turned to sludge

And the rain it hammered down  
And the rain it hammered down  
And the rain it hammered down  
And the rain it hammered down

And no one saw the carny go  
And no one saw the carny go  
And no one saw the carny go  
I say it's funny how things go

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