

Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds

"The Ballad Of Robert Moore And Betty Coltraine"

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There was a thick-set man with frog-eyes was standing
at the door
And a little bald man with wing-nuts ears was waiting in
the car
Well, Robert Moore passed the frog-eyed man as he
walked into the bar
And Betty Coltraine 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 Coltraine that I have come
to see"
"But I ain't seen that girl 'round here for more than a
week"
And Betty Coltraine she hid beneath the table

Well, then in came a sailor with mermaids tattooed on
his arms
Followed by the man with wing-nut ears who was
waiting in the car
Well, Robert Moore sensed trouble, he'd seen it coming
from afar
And Betty Coltraine she gasped beneath the table

Well, the sailor said, "I'm looking for my wife! They call
her Betty Coltraine"
And 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 Coltraine 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 Coltraine she moaned under the table

Well, the frog-eyed man jumped at Robert Moore who
stabbed him in the chest

As Mr. Frog-Eyes died, he said, "Betty, you're the girl
that I loved best"

Then the sailor pulled a razor and Robert blasted him
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 near half as much as you
You are the blessed sun to me, 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 thrashing body Betty Coltraine 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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