

Patty Larkin

"Helen"

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Helen

by Patty Larkin

Helen got a new used trailer

Brand new color TV

Put the TV on her Sears charge card

And I'm happy for her - see

She's got a little piece of land

A quarter acre lot

That an uncle or a cousin or somebody left her

Down where the road turns by the old gravel pit

And that's the way it oughta be, mister

I change the sheets on the fold out bed

Try to do something with my hair

Light up a Salem cigarette

Play a little solitaire

We're 40 miles from the border up here

So I've learned to take care of myself

Never been on food stamps

Never been on welfare

So you can just go to hell

The ones movin' in they're all from away

And they raise the rent and the price that I pay

And they look down their nose at what I gotta say

I love this coast Like I love my sons

Love the wind like my daughter

Used to be I knew everyone

'Cause everybody was born here

There was that one bad winter we ate nothing but
clams

Lord, it did get a little bit tiresome

Wonder if one of them could do something like that

Maybe then I'd think there was more to 'em

When I was a girl we'd walk to the bay

Who'd think to put a house on a point?

They're selling off land that's nothing

But rocks and spray

And I say it serves 'em all right

[They better tie it all down]

The ones movin' in they're all from away
And they raise the rent and the price that I pay
And they look down their nose at what I gotta say
I love this coast like I love my sons
Love the wind like my daughter
Used to be I knew everyone
'Cause everybody was born here

Helen's probably down at the restaurant
Probably watching All My Children
I could sure use the company with the kids all gone
And me with the day off
Hey Helen, I hear you got a new used trailer

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