

## Shooter Jennings

### "The Black Dog"

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I am a trader, I sell goods from my caravan  
I sell to mining towns in Kentucky, Tennessee, and  
Alabama  
Once on a moonless night, I was looking for a place to  
rest  
When I saw a black figure walking slow in the road  
ahead  
So I kinda hung behind, for a while I could see it was a  
black dog  
The black dog stopped and turned and his eyes  
glowed like ink and gold  
And I followed him slowly until I came to a clearing on  
the side of the  
Road  
And I stopped, and he stopped too, I cooked my meal I  
even made him a plate  
But that black dog just sat on the hill, still, and watched  
me as I ate  
Then he ran off North, towards the mountains over the  
ridge

I arrived at the next town spooked and after my  
business day  
I saw that black dog again standing stoic near the  
southern gate  
He ran North again and my blood ran cold but still I  
willed to carry on  
Well I finished my last few stops and got my scared ass  
right back home  
By the next town I was down and sore and sick from a  
lack of sleep  
This dog was haunting my mind, my stomach so  
twisted I couldn't eat

Some ol' miners were missing, their families were out  
on their porches in  
The fog  
And it caught my eye in a picture next to one of them  
miners was that ol'  
Black dog  
The old lady with the picture told me there had been a

rock-slide  
Said 12 miners were missing, maybe dead, and her  
husband and his dog was  
Inside  
So I told 'em 'bout seeing the dog and how he ran off  
on that road to the  
South  
And they said that the way he was running was towards  
a mine they call the  
"Devils mouth"  
We headed out that way and about three hours later we  
got to the site  
And they opened that Devil's mouth with about 50  
pounds of dynamite  
The rising purple smoke basked in the burning red of  
the dying sunlight  
There inside, barely alive, was that old miner trapped  
under the rocks  
Said he'd been wasting there for over a week with no  
food or water, help or  
Sleep  
Since the rock-slide trapped him underneath  
Killing his old black dog

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