

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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