

## **Townes Van Zandt**

### **"Maria"**

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By townes van zandt

Well, the diamonds fades quickly when matched to the  
face of maria

All the harps they sound empty when she lifts her lips  
to the sky

The brown of her skin makes her hair seem a soft  
golden rainfall

That spills from the mountains to the bottomless  
depths of her eyes

Well, she stands all around me her hands slowly sifting  
the sunshine

All the laughter that linger down deep 'neath her smilin'  
is free

Well, it spins and it twirls like a hummingbird lost in the  
morning

And caresses the south wind and silently sails to the  
sea

Ah, the sculpter stands stricken and the artist he  
throws away his brushes

When her image comes dancin' the sun she turns  
sullen with shame

And the birds they go silent the wind stops his sad  
mournful singing

When the trees of the forest start gently to whisper'in  
her name

So as softly she wanders I'll desperately follow her  
footsteps

And I'll chase after shadows that offer a trace of her  
sight

Ah, they promise eternally that she lays hidden within  
them

But I find they've decieved me and sadly I bid them  
goodbye

So the serpent slide softly away with these moments of  
laughter

And the the old washy woman has finish her cleanin'  
and gone

But the bamboo hang heavy in the bondage of  
quicksilver daydreams

And a lonely child longingly looks for a place to belong

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