

# Natalie Merchant, River

Young and strong Hollywood son  
In the early morning light  
This star fell down  
On Sunset Boulevard

Young and strong beautiful one  
That we embrace so close  
Is gone  
Was torn away

Let the youth of America mourn  
Include him in their prayers  
Let his image linger on  
Repeat it everywhere

With candles and flowers  
He was one of ours  
One of ours  
Why don't you let him be?  
He's gone  
We know  
Give his mother and his father peace  
Your vulture's candor  
Your casual slander  
You murder his memory  
He's gone  
We know  
It's nothing but a tragedy

Lay to rest your soul  
and body  
Lay beside your name  
Lay to rest your rage  
Your hunger and amazing grace

With candles and flowers  
You were one of ours  
One of ours

I saw cameras expose your life  
I heard rumours explode with lies  
I saw children in tears  
Cry and crowd around the sight  
Of where you had collapsed that day  
Where your last breath and word  
Had been sighed  
Where your heart had burst  
Where you had died

I saw how they were lost and grieving  
All half believing you were gone  
The loss and the pain of it  
Crime and the shame of it  
You were gone  
It was such a nightmare raving  
"How can we save him  
From himself?"