

# Townes Van Zandt, Niles River Blues

by Townes Van Zandt

On the banks of the Niles I courted my love  
I walked with her soft as a mournin' dove  
I loved her true I swear I still do  
and now she's gone without me

I walk by the banks and give the Lord thanks  
that I had the chance to court her  
I don't know why he flew her away  
I don't know why I'm left here

The Niles runs cold and clear  
as cold and clear as my tears  
I'll never forget, I'll never regret  
those days on the beautiful Niles

Her name was Diane her beautiful hands  
were soft as the pearls in the water  
I looked in her eyes they were blue as the skies  
and now I've gone and left her

I'll follow her down the way to the river  
follow her now, now and forever  
she's my one and only smile  
on the beautiful banks of the Niles

Someday soon 'neath the light of the moon  
when the sun and the rain shine together  
I'll meet her down where the waters flow  
and continue to flow forever

Down on the banks of the beautiful Niles  
I wonder what I can be thinking  
down on the banks of that beautiful river  
I'll wander, look for her forever  
I'll wander, look for her forever