Folk Bloodbath

Josh Ritter

Louis Collins took a trip out west
And when he returned little Delia'd gone to rest
The angels laid her away
Louis said to Delia, "That's the sad thing with life"
"People always leaving just as other folks arrive"
The angels laid her away
When the people heard that Delia was dead
All them gentlemen they dressed in red
The angels laid her awayThe angels laid her away
Laid her six feet under the clay
The angels laid her away
Louis went downtown for a new suit of clothes
Gonna dress up for Delia like a fine red rose
The angels laid him away
He brought a ten-gallon stetson it was oxblood red

Then Stackalee shot Louis in the back of the head

The angels laid him away

Stackalee said to Louis, "Oh now, don't you grieve"•
I'm sending you to Delia you won't ever have to leave"•
The angels laid him awayThe angels laid him away
Laid him six feet under the clay

The angels laid him awayThe judge was a mean one, his name was "Hangin Billy Lyons He said, "You've always been a bad man, Stack, you're gonna hang this time"•

The angels laid him away

And the jailer said to Stackalee, "What's the problem with you?"•
"Oh, jailer, Louis Collins ghost brought Delia's with him too"•

The angels laid him away
The angels laid him away
Laid him six feet under the clay

The angels laid him awayThey buried little Delia in the churchyard deep

Louis Collins at her head, Stackalee at her feet

The angels laid them away

And out of Delia's bed came briars, out of Louis' bed a rose And out of Stackalee's came Stackalee's cold lonely little ghost

The angels laid them away

And I'm looking over rooftops and I'm hoping that it ain't true
That the same God looked out for them looks out for me and you
The angels laid them away

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