

## Blue Diamond Mines

Kathy Mattea

I remember the ways in the by gone days  
When we were in our prime  
How us and John L  
Give the old man hell  
Down in the blue diamond mine

Well the whistle blowed  
And the rooster crowed  
Two hours before daylight  
When a man done his best  
And he earned his good rest  
Made seventeen dollars at night

In the mines, in the mines  
In the blue diamond mines  
I worked my life away  
In the mines, in the mines  
In the blue diamond mines  
Fall on your knees and pray

You old black gold  
You've taken my lungs  
And your dust has darkened my home  
And now that we're old  
Your turning your back  
Where else can an old miner go?

Well its almalblock and big leatherwood  
And now it's blue diamond too  
Well the pits are all closed  
And it's get another job  
What else can an older miner do?

John M had a dream  
But it is broken it seems  
Mining has had it's day  
But they're stripping off my mountaintop  
And they pay me eight dollars a day

I've did a little pogo of welfare meals  
A little pogo of welfare flour  
But I tell you right now  
You won't qualify until you work for a quarter an hour