

# When The Master Calls The Roll

Rosanne Cash

Girl with hair of flaming red  
Seeking perfect lover  
For to lie down on her feather bed  
Soul secrets to uncover

Must be gentile, must be strong  
With disposition sunny  
Just as faithful as the day is long  
And careful with his money

And so the open letter read  
The news boy did deliver  
Three months later plans were made to wed  
Down by the King James river

Know the season may come  
Know the season may go  
When love is joined together  
With whoever be made whole  
When the master calls the roll

Oh my darling will you leave?  
Take me to the altar  
I don't have strength to watch you as you leave  
But my love will never fault her

Oh my darling Marry Anne  
The march to war is calling  
Somewhere far across these southern lands  
The bands of brothers falling

My tender bride, the tides demand  
That I leave you with your mother  
With my father's rifle in one hand  
Your locket in the other

Know the season may come  
Know the season may go  
Beware the storm clouds gather  
Take heat in warm of soul  
When the master calls the roll

But can this union be preserved?  
The soldier boy was crying  
I will never travel back to her  
But not for lack of trying

It's a love of one true heart at last  
That made the boy a hero  
But a rattle ball and a cannon blast  
Cut him down to zero

Oh Virginia once I came  
I'll see you when I'm younger  
And I'll know you by your hills again  
This town from 6 feet under

Know the season may come  
Know the season may go  
A man is torn asunder  
But someday we may know  
When the master calls the roll

Though the storm clouds gather  
Let the union be made whole  
When the master calls the roll