

# Ballad of Annie Palmer

Johnny Cash

One time I was down to Jamaica to a place called Rose Hall Plan  
tation  
They grow a lot of sugarcane and tomatoes and things at Rose Ha  
ll now  
It used to be just a sugarcane plantation back in the days of s  
lavery  
And they tell stories about the place and about the great house  
at Rose Hall  
That many many years ago they came from the country of Haiti  
A lady named Annie Palmer who lived in that great house there  
And she was a mistress of the plantation she was the boss her w  
ord was law  
Well they tell a lot of tales about Annie  
They say she had three husbands one at a time I guess  
But they also tell tales about Annie and the slaves  
There were about 5000 slaves on the plantation  
And she had her favorites and she had the ones that weren't her  
favorites  
Well down on the sea there're three tall palm trees wavin' in t  
he breeze  
And they say that maybe Annie Palmer's three husbands  
Are buried under those palm trees

On the Island of Jamaica quite a long long time ago  
At Rose Hall Plantation where the ocean breezes blow  
Lived a girl named Annie Palmer the mistress of the place  
And the slaves all lived in fear to see a frown on Annie's face

Where's your husband Annie where's number two and three  
Are they sleeping neath the palms beside the Caribbean Sea  
At night I hear you ridin' and I hear your lovers call  
And still can feel your presence round the great house at Rose  
Hall hmm

Well if you should ever go to see the great house at Rose Hall  
There's expensive chairs and china and great paintings on the w  
all  
They'll show you Annie's sitting room and the whipping post out  
side  
But they won't let you see the room where Annie's husbands died  
Where's your husband Annie