

# Tomb of the Unknown Love

Kenny Rogers

One time I drove to see a girl across the country  
One night as I was driving through New Mexico  
I had the windows wide open  
It was cold and I was crying  
And I laid her letter on the radio  
Then I stopped outside of Tahoe  
thru this tiny mining town  
At a diner to refill for the ride  
And in the wind I heard this crying  
Like a heart broke right in two  
I turned my collar up and went inside.

Well, I saw this smiling waitress  
Joshing friendly with these truckers  
They'd give her pats and she'd give them shoves  
I said: "Miss what's that awful crying?"  
Everybody laughed and said:  
"It's the tomb of the unknown love"  
And then they pointed out the window to this stone  
All by itself, beneath the tree, beside the hill  
And on that winter night  
I read these words alone  
These words that are haunting me still, it said:

Here lies a young man struck down in his prime  
By the awesome burning power of love  
He couldn't stand this true love cheating  
So he shot the girl down  
They hung him from that tree up (right) above  
I know that local folks say it's the wind  
But I know it's crying  
from the tomb of the unknown love.

So I drove on to my destination  
I did the job my heart commanded of me  
And when the sheriff sirens came  
I didn't even try to fight  
They counted ten, I came out at three  
So now I guess tomorrow morning  
Warden reads some kind of paper  
How I'm gonna pay the state for what I've done  
Hey, then they'll put the shackles on me  
And we'll take a little walk  
They won't have to drag me 'cos it's said and done  
And maybe someday they can put me up a stone  
All by itself, beneath the tree, beside the hill  
And lovers everywhere can come and read along  
These words that will give them a chill  
and it'll say:

Here lies a young man...