

# Somebody's Shadow

Rodney Crowell

I've seen her in the street light once  
All edgy, black and white  
A flash of incandescence  
Shape shifting in the night  
I spied her in a clearing  
Out beyond the switching yard  
I've seen her in a fever dream  
And the Empress tarot card  
On every crooked sidewalk  
I've ever stumbled down  
Where all roads lead to nowhere  
On the other side of town

She's leaning on a lamp post  
Or slumped against the wall  
Sneaking down the alley  
Behind the billiard hall  
There in a cafe window, a figure so forlorn  
She's making me the enemy of every oath I've sworn  
Has anybody seen her now?  
Pray tell me what you hear  
'Cause I just can't get over  
How she shed me like a tear

Somebody's shadow  
Is pullin' out the stops  
Somebody's shadow  
Probably oughta call the cops  
Somebody's shadow  
Is sneakin' up behind  
Somebody's shadow  
Made a madhouse of my mind  
A perfumed apparition  
Out there fading into black  
Somebody's shadow  
Like a neon heart attack

She's lipstick on the Pall Mall butt  
In an ashtray by the bed  
Wine glass in the bathroom sink  
And a porch light flaming red  
Her eyes are cornsilk vapors  
And her hair's like oil drum fire  
The hoot owls in the belfrey  
Back-announce her heart's desire  
Is anybody out there now  
And can you hear my voice?  
The moondance on the rooftop  
Is the phantom lady's choice

Somebody's shadow  
Is making me a wreck  
Somebody's shadow  
Like a noose around my neck  
Somebody's shadow  
Is making me a slave  
Somebody's shadow

Is digging me my grave  
This paradise called yesterday  
Is what I miss the most  
'Cause somebody's shadow  
Still haunts me like a ghost