Mr. Mudd and Mr. Gold

Townes Van Zandt

Well the wicked king of clubs awoke And it was to his queen turned His lips were laughing as they spoke His eyes like bullets burned

The sun's upon a gambling day His queen smiled low and blissfully Let's make some wretched fool to play Plain it was she did agree

He send his deuce down into diamond His four to hart, and his trey to spade Three kings with their legions come Preparations soon where made

They voted club the days commander Gave him an army face and number All but the outlaw jack of diamonds And the aces in the sky

Well, he gave his sevens first instructions Spirit me a game of stud Stakes unscarred by limitation Between a man named Gold and man named Mud

Club filled Gold with greedy vapors Till his long, green eyes did glow And Mud was left with the sighs and trembles Watching his hard earned money go

Flushes fell on Gold like water Tens they paired and paired again But the aces only flew through heaven And the diamond jack called no man friend

Now, the Diamond Queen saw Muds ordeal Began to think of her long lost son Fell to her knees with a mother's mercy And prayed to the angels every one

Now, the Diamond Queen, she prayed and prayed And the Diamond Angel filled Muds hole The wicked King of Clubs himself Fell in face down in front of Gold

Now, three kings come to Clubs command But the angels from the sky did ride Three kings up on the streets of Gold Three fireballs on the muddy side

The club queen heard her husband's call But Lord, that Queen of Diamond's joy When the outlaw in the heavenly hall Turned out to be a wandering boy

Now, Mud he checked and Gold bet all And Mud he raised and Gold did call

And the smile just melted on his face When Mud turned over that diamond ace

Now, here's what this story's told If you feel like Mud you'll end up Gold If you feel like lost, you'll end up found So amigo, lay them raises down