

# Dead Man's Hand

Will Hoge

Johnny Samartino and his 3rd wife Kate  
Took a backpack full of money to the Seaside Arcade  
To meet a man from Teaneck that said he'd get them paid  
They should just relax and learn to trust him  
Said he put some on the ponies that were running upstate  
He had a secret about a filly that was gonna break late  
The other part he'd double but he didn't wanna have to say  
The way that he was gonna have to do it  
Johnny looked at Katie and gave a little shrug  
Katie flashed a smile and gave that Teaneck man a hug  
He said, "My name's Domenico but my friends all call me Doug"  
Said he could have their money back by Monday  
They watched him walk away then went to have a drink  
\$800,000 was all that they could think  
And if it all works out quicker than a liar learns to blink  
They'd be home free and send the kids to college

Hold on as long as you can  
Cause now you're playing, playing with a dead man's hand

They woke up early Sunday for the grand occasion  
Wouldn't matter soon with all the money they'd be making  
Johnny threw out all his razors cause there ain't no sense in shaving  
Once you've told that old boss man where he can shove it  
Katie stood there smiling and lit a cigarette  
Put some bacon on a biscuit and turned on the TV set  
It was early in the morning and the race hadn't started yet  
When a man came on with news he said was breaking  
Said a man from Teaneck had gotten tied up with the mob  
Needed half a million dollars just to pay all his debts off  
Found him dead in some back alley behind the gambling hall  
Holding on to nothing but a backpack that was empty  
Katie cried, "Oh Johnny all our money's gone. That's  
Everything we had there's nothing even left to pawn  
Maybe we should put a for sale sign out there on the lawn  
Just get the most we can and get to running."

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Johnny said, "Don't worry, I think I've got a plan."  
That's the famous last words spoken by every desperate man  
Kissed her goodbye with a .38 in his right hand  
And a rusty crow bar swingin' from the other  
Katie didn't hear a word for 48 long hours  
Then news broke about a mob boss getting gunned down in the shower  
Thought it could be revenge by some other gang for power  
But the police on the TV acted nervous  
A single .38 shot to the head there at the scene  
They found an old revolver but it appeared to be wiped clean  
A crowbar by the toilet they weren't sure what that could mean  
But they'd let us know throughout the investigation  
She heard Johnny's car so she ran out on the steps  
Had a backpack in his right hand and 12 red roses in his left  
Kissed her and said, "I love you but I think it would be best

If maybe we just headed west and went to Kansas."

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