

I Went Down to Taneytown, Steve Earl

Am C G Am C G Am Em G

Am C G Am
I went down to Taneytown, I went down to Taneytown

C G Am Em G
To see what I could see

Am C G Am
My mama told me never go, I'm damned near twenty-two years old

C G Am Em G
Some times I feel this hollow swallowing me.

Ma went off to Gettysburg, her and that new beau of hers, I snuck off after dark.

It's a long way down the Canny Road, the stars were bright & the moon was low,
Down where the blacktop highway starts.

Chorus:

I went down to Taneytown, I went down to Taneytown,

I went down to see what I could see.

Now everybody stared at me, you'd think that they ain't never seen,
A colored boy before.

Well, they jumped at me and they called me names,
they'd a whupped me sure, but the sheriff came,
I slipped off and ran through the drygoods store.

I ran down Division Street, but some of them boys followed me,
Down to the railroad track.

There was four of them & I came five, but I got my old Randall knife,
I cut that boy & I never did look back.

Chorus

Across the fields & woods I run, like a bullet from a rabbit gun,
Back home to my bed.

Ma came back from Gettysburg, her and that new beau of hers,

Boy you look like hell, was all she said.

A month went by without a word, till someone down in the hollow heard,

About that boy they hung.

He begged those men to spare his life, but I dropped my bloody Randall knife,

He picked it up, so they thought he was the one.

Chorus (x2) Second time last line: "I ain't going back there anymore."