

The Ballad of Springhill

♩ = 132

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three lines of music. The first line starts with a 4/4 time signature and ends with a 3/2 time signature. The second line starts with a 3/2 time signature, changes to 4/4, then back to 3/2, and ends with 4/4. The third line is in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'In the town of Spring-hill, No - va Sco - tia Down in the dark of the Cum-ber-land mine, There's blood on the coal and the min-ers lie, In the roads that nev-er saw sun nor sky; Roads that nev-er saw sun nor sky.'

2. In the town of Springhill, Nova Scotia,
Late in the year of fifty-eight;
Day still comes and the sun still shines,
But it's dark as the grave in the Cumberland
mine,
Dark as the grave in the Cumberland mine.

3. Down at the coal face, miners working,
Battle of the belt and the cutter's blade,
Rumble of the rock and the walls close round,
The living and the dead men two miles down,
Living and the dead men two miles down.

4. Listen for the shouts of the bareface miners,
Listen through the rubble for a rescue team,
Six hundred feet of coal and slag,
Hope imprisoned in a three-foot seam,
Hope imprisoned in a three-foot seam.

5. Eight days passed and some were rescued,
Leaving the dead to lie alone.
Through all their lives they'd dug a grave,
Two miles of earth for a marking stone,
Two miles of earth for a marking stone.

6. Twelve men lay two miles from the pit-shaft,
Twelve men lay in the dark and sang,
Long hot days in the miners towb,
It was three feet high and a hundred long,
It was three feet high and a hundred long.

7. Three days passed and the lamps gave out,
Caleb Rushton, he up and said:
"There's no more water, nor light, nor bread,
So we'll live on songs and hope instead,
So we'll live on songs and hope instead.

8. In the town of Springhill, you don't sleep,
Often the earth will tremble and toll,
When the earth is restless, miners die,
Bone and blood is the price of coal,
Bone and blood is the price of coal.