

**The Way It Goes**  
**Gillian Welch**

The Way it Goes  
Gillian Welch  
The Harrow and the Harvest - 2011

Capo 1

[Verse 1]

**Em**  
Becky Johnson bought the farm

**Em**  
Put a needle in her arm

**B7**  
That s the way that it goes

**Em**  
That s the way

**Em**  
And her brother laid her down

**Em**  
In the cold Kentucky ground

**B7**  
That s the way that it goes

**Em**  
That s the way

[Chorus]

**G** **Em**  
That s the way that it goes

**C** **G** **D**  
Everybody s buying little baby clothes

**G** **Em**  
That s the way that it ends

**C** **B7** **Em**  
Though there was a time when she and I were friends

[Verse 2]

**Em**  
Well, Miranda ran away

**Em**  
Took her cat and left LA

**B7**  
That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

**Em**

She was busted, broke and flat

**Em**

Had to sell that pussy cat

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

[Chorus]

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it goes

**C**

**G**

**D**

Everybody s buying little baby clothes

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it ends

**C**

**B7**

**Em**

Though there was a time when he and I were friends

[Verse 3]

**Em**

See the brightest ones of all

**Em**

Early in October fall

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

**Em**

While the dark ones go to bed

**Em**

With good whiskey in their head

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

**Em**

Now Billy Joe s back in the tank

**Em**

You tell Russo, I ll tell Frank

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

**Em**

Did he throw her down a well?

**Em**

Did she leave him for that swell?

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

[Chorus]

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it goes

**C**

**G**

**D**

Everybody s buying little baby clothes

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it ends

**C**

**B7**

**Em**

Though there was a time when all of us were friends

[Verse]

**Em**

When you lay me down to rest

**Em**

Leave a pistol in my vest

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

**Em**

Do you miss my gentle touch?

**Em**

Did I hurt you very much?

**B7**

That s the way that it goes

**Em**

That s the way

[Chorus]

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it goes

**C**

**G**

**D**

Everybody s buying little baby clothes

**G**

**Em**

That s the way that it ends

**C**

**B7**

**Em**

Though there was a time when you and I were friends