

**Ballad Of Barbara**  
**Johnny Cash**

[intro]

**A**

[verse]

**A**

In a southern town where I was born

**A**                    **E**                    **A**

That s where I got my education

**A**

I worked in the fields and I walked in the woods

**A**                    **E**    **A**

And I wondered at creation

**A**

I recall the sun in a sky of blue

**A**                    **E**                    **A**

And the smell of green things growin

**A**

And I lived everyday and I lived anyway

**A**                    **E**                    **A**

Anyway the wind was blowin

**A**

But then I heard of a cultured city life

**A**                    **E**                    **A**

Breath-takin lofty steeples

**A**

And the day I called myself a man

**A**                    **E**                    **A**

I left my land and my people

[verse 2]

**D**

And I rambled North and I rambled East

**D**                    **A**                    **D**

And I tested and I tasted

**D**

And a girl or two took me round and round

**D**                    **A**                    **D**

But always left me wasted

**D**

In a world that saw concrete and steel

**D**                    **A**                    **D**

With nothin green ever growin

**D**

Where the buildings hide the rising sun

D                    A                    D  
And stop the free wind from blowin

D  
Where they sleep all day and they wake all night

D                    A                    D  
To a world of drink and laughter

D  
I met that girl that I thought would be

D                    A                    D  
The one that I was after

[verse 3]

A  
In a soft blue gown and a formal tux

A                    E                    A  
Beneath that lofty steeple

A  
He said do you Barbra take this man

A                    E                    A  
Will you be one of his people

A  
And she said I will and she said I do

A                    E                    A  
And the world looked mighty pretty

A  
And we lived in a fancy downtown flat

A                    E                    A  
Cause she loved the noisy city

A  
Then the days grew cold beneath the yellow sky

A                    E                    A  
And I longed for green things growin

A  
And I talked of home and my people there

A                    E                    A  
But she d not agree to goin

[verse 4]

E  
Then her hazel eyes turned away from me

E                    B                    E  
With a look that wasn t very pretty

E  
And she turned into concrete and steel

E                    B                    E  
And she said I take the city

[verse 5]

A  
Now the cars go by on the interstate

**A**                    **E**            **A**  
And my pack is on my shoulder

**A**  
And I m goin home where I belong

**A**                    **E**            **A**  
Much wiser now and older