

Lydia
Slaid Cleaves

Key of Eb, capo 1, play in D

D / G / Bm / A

D **G** **Bm** **A**
Lydie lit a cigarette today
D **G** **Bm** **A**
Ancient fumbling fingers in her way
 G **Bm** **A** **G**
From a forty year old coffee cup she sipped a bit of gin
Bm **A** **G**
Closed her eyes and let the memories in.

D **G** **Bm** **A**
She lives in the old place all alone,
D **G** **Bm** **A**
Keeps in touch with neighbors by the phone
 G **Bm** **A** **G**
Grows roses on the graves of her firstborn and his father
Bm **A** **G**
And the coal trucks never bother her

Chorus

D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydie, let him go the boy is gone
Bm **A** **G**
Her mother struggled as she tore him from her arms
D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydia your tears are heaven's rain
Bm **A** **G**
But she never was the same

D **G** **Bm** **A**
A cotton dress and satin shoes
D **G** **Bm** **A**
Indian summer sun, dressed in amber hues
G **Bm** **A** **G**
Spending time with a coal miner's son
Bm **A** **G**
To an old time fiddle tune

D **G** **Bm** **A**
The months went by just like a breeze that year,
D **G** **Bm** **A**
They wed in June, and by the fall the boy was here

G **Bm** **A** **G**
Word come down from Big Stone, there's a fire in the mine
Bm **A** **G**
And eleven men they couldn't find

Chorus

D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydie, let him go the boy is gone
Bm **A** **G**
Her mother struggled as she tore him from her arms
D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydia your tears are heaven's rain
Bm **A** **G**
But she never was the same

Break

D **G** **Bm** **A**
She watched them pull him from the hole,
D **G** **Bm** **A**
The overalls he wore were blackened by the smoke,
G **Bm** **A** **G**
Lydie twice had had this dream and twice it had come true
Bm **A** **G**
And when she saw his father's boots she knew.

Chorus

D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydie, let him go the boy is gone
Bm **A** **G**
Her mother struggled as she tore him from her arms
D **Bm** **A** **G**
Oh Lydia your tears are heaven's rain
Bm **A** **G**
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