

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Swannanoa Tunnel 2

Swannanoa Tunnel 2  
(Traditional)

I'm going back to the Swannanoa Tunnel  
That's my home, baby, that's my home

Asheville Junction, Swannanoa Tunnel  
All caved in, baby, all caved in

Last December I remember  
The wind blowed cold, baby, the wind blowed cold

When you hear my watchdog howling  
Somebody around, baby, somebody around

When you hear that hoot owl squalling  
Somebody dying, baby, somebody dying

Hammer falling from my shoulder  
All day long, baby, all day long

Ain't no hammer in this mountain  
Out rings mine, baby, out rings mine

This old hammer it killed John Henry  
It didn't kill me, baby, couldn't kill me

Riley Gardner, he killed my partner  
He couldn't kill me, baby, he couldn't kill me

This old hammer it rings like silver  
It shines like gold, baby, it shines like gold

Take this hammer, throw it in the river  
It rings right on, baby, it shines right on

Some of these days I'll see that woman  
Well that's no dream, baby, that's no dream

Source: Bascom Lamar Lunsford 'Ballads, Banjo Tunes and Sacred Songs of  
Western North Carolina' Smithsonian Folkways SF CD 40082.

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