

Michael Collins and Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo Interview for A People's History of Colrain Podcast

Audio file

[Mike and Tony Full Podcast 11-21-23.mp3](#)

Transcript

♪ [Good Summer Rain by Erica Wheeler and Crit Harmon] [00:01]: ♪

Down comes a falling
that soft summer rain.
Over the corn fields
Of this river flood plain.

Over the green hills,
And the roadside stands,
Where you'd pay leaving money
In an old coffee can

There's the broken gas pumps,
And the barn falling down,
I can see the swimming hole,
Where the river's fat and round.

That farm still haunts me, like it's calling out my name
Don't it seem like a waste now, of good summer rain?

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [01:03] Welcome to the People's History of Colrain podcast. Colrain, Massachusetts is a rural farming community located on the traditional territories of the Pocumtuck, Nipmuck, and Wabanaki people. Today the population rests at around 1600.

The People's History of Colrain podcast was inspired by the book, *A People's History of the United States* by Howard Zinn, and like that book, its aim is to document and highlight stories that have previously gone untold, but on a much smaller local scale.

The People's History of Colrain podcast is made by Colrainers about life in Colrain. The People's History of Colrain podcast is brought to you by the Griswold Memorial Library, with funding from the Library Services and Technology Act.

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Thank you for joining us.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [02:08] My name is Cynthia McLaughlin. I live in Colrain, and we've lived here for about 18 years. Before we moved up here, we were living down in D.C. and were investigating the area a bit and read about the amazing restaurant, *The Green Emporium*.

But by the time we moved up here, it had changed to a pizza place, and we went there all the time and got to know Mike and Tony.

Michael Collins: [02:39] Michael Collins.

Tony Palumbo: [02:40] Tony Palumbo.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [02:41] Tony's a neon artist. He created the amazing iconic, neon flag that one sees as you're driving into Colrain from Route 2. I'm an artist, a choreographer, and I had approached them about an event that I wanted to hold in their space. And they were all for it because they're both artists themselves, and it ended up being quite a time. Oh, hundreds of people came, and it was just kind of outlandish and wonderful, just like those two.

Mike and Tony have been a really integral part of this community and have had pretty profound experiences here. It's been fun having them here for dinner [laughter] out on our patio, looking at the hills with our crazy puppies making a ruckus. [Laughter]

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [03:37] My real name is Pacifico Palumbo.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [03:40] Does anyone ever call you Pacifico?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [03:42] That's my name.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [03:43] But I mean, which would you prefer?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [03:46] I'm Italian and my father had five sisters and every boy that was born was named Pacifico. But our nickname is Paji. So, my grandmother used to call us Paji and I'm the only one that remained Paji Pacifico. Everybody changed their name to Patrick.

Why would you call yourself Patrick? [laughter] Patronito you could say Patrico. But anyway, that's my name!

Michael Collins: [04:40] People always say when did you come up and I say 1969. We bought a house which was a mill with a cooperage barrel shop, and we came up on 4th of July 1969 and we were, uh, well somebody that Tony worked for um, worked with, was in the [*inaudible*].

I was an art director, and she was an art director. She worked with Tony. She said you guys come up for a weekend.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [04:49] My friend that we went to visit, she and her husband bought a home in Charlemont. It was right above the Charlemont Inn. And we went to visit them and then this, these people, (Dogs making noises in the background) especially him, her husband. His name was Paul. Paul DeGeorges.

He liked houses and different things that were in the area. So, he says to us I wanna take you and see. Well, let's start the story right. We left in the morning. It was 7:00 in the morning.

It took seven and a half hours to get up there, and I'm not lying. It was crazy. So, we get out of the car. I look around, I see these mountains, you know, we see the house is a beautiful little house that they, that they were living in.

And the first thing he says is, I want to show you some places that are for sale, I said you want to show? I don't even know where I am, and you want me to go buy a house. This is the truth and Michael, of course, said., let's go!

So, we went from Charlemont, to 8A, up to Heath and then wound up in front of our house.

Michael Collins: [06:01] And I says that's New York and a New Yorker's dream of a country home, you know? And uh, it had the river, and um, it had everything that you'd want, except that it needed a lot of work.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [06:20] It was \$4000. So, what happened is I, he haunted me all night. He says. I want it, I want it. (People talking in the background)

Cynthia McLaughlin: [06: 25] Whispering in your ear while you're sleeping.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [06:27] He was sleeping in one room. I'm sleeping in another room. He comes into my room and he's telling me.

Michael Collins: [06:28] Those were the days when they separated us.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [06:40] And he. says buy it. Buy it.

Michael Collins: [06:43] So, I had to go sneaking around to have this discussion with him in the middle of the night. I said buy it. Buy it.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [06:51] So, I guess in the month.

Michael Collins: [06:52] We didn't have enough money to give this \$250 deposit

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [06:53] No.

Michael Collins: [06:54] So, we said to the, our realtor, who was Bill Pratt. We said to him, you know, put it in on Friday, the check, because it would have bounced. [*Laughter*] But we had we bought the cooperage and, and it's, it's history after that.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [07:16] It was an abandoned cooperage. And there was two buildings on the property, one by the pond, with the water wheel and the whole bit. and the fire department used that for fire test. And the building that we wanted to buy was scheduled for the next fire test.

You burn it down and show how you would, I guess fireman would react during the fire.

Michael Collins: [07:51] And the other building, the adjacent building was smaller, but that they had it as an ice house and also it was called the box factory. Really, you probably don't remember, but there were boxes like this about maybe eight inches by two inches and they were butter boxes, where they would put the butter in the like 5 pounds of butter. And so that's what they did in that adjacent shop.

What happened is that we did a lot of renovations and then we would say, well, we got to go on vacation for the winter or something. And uh, so then we weren't up here and then we would come up. Well, we weren't full time.

When did we start to be full time?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [08:45] In early 2000, after my parents both passed away in Brooklyn.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [08:47] Oh, OK.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [8:51] Oh.

Michael Collins: [8:52] No.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [8:53] And then to be able to know what it was like. I didn't want to be in New York anymore. You know, I used to ride the subway every morning. For 40 years. I went to New York City every day from Brooklyn. And then I got tired of the whole thing.

And I wanted to be here. I love it up here. I think there's nothing better. Oh, at the beginning we had problems.

Michael Collins: [09:15] A lot of problems.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [09:18] Back in the 60s when you moved here?

Michael Collins: [09:19] I mean, like they would yell things, you know, derogatory things. Some of them were wonderful and kind. But there were others that were hateful and mean.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [09:25] To you?

Michael Collins: [09:26] Oh yes, us. We would have company come and we would be doing a barbecue out back and we put a fence in because people would yell things and, ah, it's just very hurtful.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [09:47] Yeah.

Michael Collins: [09:48] And I would, one time I took a shovel and followed them with the sharp shovel? You know what I mean? Because I was working in the garden and I, I took the shovel in my hand and, and I followed them, you know.

And so, there was a lot, quite a few incidents of that type of thing, which was very hard to put up with because I would say to them, it's sometimes you would know who it is. They're at the gas station or whatever.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [10:28] Yeah.

Michael Collins: [10:19] And I'd say, I didn't put up with this in New York, I'm damn well not going to put up with it up here. But it was touch and go, you know what I mean?

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [10:28] Yeah.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [10:29] Can I tell my part in the story?

Michael Collins: [10:30] Sure.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [10:31] Because it was the anniversary of, I think we had the had the house for 30 years at that point. And we used to have a, he had a wooden fence. And I opened the door on that day. And I walked outside and on the road, there was this thing that said [*beep sound where expletive was removed*], I'm talking about 20 inches, 24 inches high.

Michael Collins: [10:57] 10 - 12-inch red, you know that red paint that doesn't fade away. It's not wash away.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [11:06] And I saw all this horrible, you know, writing outside, and it was really very upsetting. So right away, the idea was that most people would say, oh well, you could wipe it off and we'll take care of it and clean it up.

So, I called the, we have a good friend, Paul Franz. He's a photographer for The Recorder. And I called up Paul and I said, hey, Paul, this, this, this and this. So, he said I'm coming up. And what happened was, rather than take it off, I said leave everything there.

I want everybody to see what they did. I want you to photograph what people did.

Michael Collins: [11:50] You know, it's like we're living this way. You know what I mean horrible stuff.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [11:52] And we made the front cover of The Recorder with the whole idea.

Michael Collins: [11:56] Well, I don't want to be like, but it's part of the story. You know?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [12:01] Yeah, but I think the best part of the story was how wonderful, like the Hager's, who have Hager's now.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [12:06] No, I know.

Michael Collins: [12:08] People bought us like a mailbox, you know who brought us flowers. I mean, and it might have been a man with a green outfit on that we didn't even know but would bring us flowers or something. You know, the people that were kind and nice. It was, it made-up for it and it.

Because we weren't bitter.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [12:30] I mean, from the kids that did this, two of them became friends of ours and worked at our restaurants. I mean everything.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [12:40] Did they ever apologize? Did they ever take responsibility?

Michael Collins: [12:44] Oh yes, they came.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [12:45] And one right, he wrote a wonderful note like how sorry he was. He didn't even know what he was involved in with these people.

Michael Collins: [12:47] Which was alcohol, you know?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [12:48] They just were drinking, you know? They were youngsters, they were drinking, and they got into this whole thing. And then it's like, let's do this and let's do that.

And then we found spray cans. What was it that they wrote the stuff on? They used spray cans to write the word (*beeping sound where expletive was removed*) Which was 24 inches high, which I thought was horrible. Then, they threw the spray cans over, over the river over the bank.

Michael Collins: [13:01] And in the pond.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [13:20] So, we found the spray cans.

Michael Collins: [13:22] The police, the state police were very good about it. Investigating and found the four kids that did it very fast.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [13:33] They were?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [13:34] Yeah. It turned out that it was more um. Like we, we got to know these, some of these kids and they like I say, they worked for us, and we became friends and there's still some that we're friends with today.

Michael Collins: [13:49] Well, this was around the time of oh, what was that fellas name?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [13:55] No, the one they tied up.

Michael Collins: [13:57] They tied up on the fence.

Chelsea Jordan Makely: [13:56] Matthew Shepard.

Michael Collins: [14:01] You know, it was around that time, so people said we want to do a candlelight vigil for you around the restaurant out in the street. And I say, listen, I don't want to. No.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [14:12] They didn't ask you what you wanted?

Michael Collins: [14:14] There. That's good for Matthew Shepard, but I wasn't dead. You know what? We're gonna celebrate diversity and we had over 200.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [14:19] 175 people. We had a plasma band. We had all kinds of music being played. The party went on and on and everybody went. Yeah, yeah. And they all came through the restaurant. And I enjoyed that. There was a wonderful thing that happened as a result.

Michael Collins: [14:42] And there was an Afro-American gal, that was married to a white fellow that was living up here. And uh she came to us and said I'm so happy that you were able to do that because as you said it happens to us. You know what I mean?

So, it was like it, it, it brought a bridge between us and other people that were, they were prejudice against, you know.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [15:14] We just celebrated diversity at the restaurant. Well, people brought all kinds of food. The place was loaded with everything you could eat.

Michael Collins: [15:22] We must have had over 150 people.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [15:28] Well, how did you all come to create, to starting the restaurant because you were a neon artist. You, have you always been a...

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [15:35] Well, we had a neon gallery in New York for years on Hudson Street. in the Village, it was called *Say It In Neon*.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [15:43] What was it called?

Chelsea Jordan Makely: [15:46] Mm.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [15:47] *Say IT In Neon*. And we started in 1973. And then, when we moved up here, if we had the search building and I thought that that would become a neon gallery also, but it didn't. But then I said no one's ever gonna come to Colrain to look at me.

Michael. You ever cook something, do something? So, we became a restaurant. When we were living in New York there was a woman who had a thing emporium, and I like the word, so I said, you know, let's become an Emporium.

Now let me tell you something. We had the best food.

Michael Collins: [16:36] And then, this couple that we know, they're both artists and they said we might do a wedding.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [16:40] I bet.

Michael Collins: [16:57] So, I said fine we'll do the food, and we didn't know anything about the entertainment. We just were food. The couple are bringing in all this stuff, harping out in boxes.

All of a sudden you see she starts to kind of do a little practicing. They had candles, candles on their head when they were doing belly dancing.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [17:12] Oh, that was Kristen Couture.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [17:14] With candles on there. Wow.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [17:17] She and her husband.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [17:19] *Green Emporium*.

Michael Collins: [17:20] And of course, there were a few people from town that were...

Cynthia McLaughlin: [17:31] Oh yeah, it was *Mike and Tony's*.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [17:34] I never forgot.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [17:35] When was it transferred to *Mike and Tony's*?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [17:36] But what happened is when I became 65.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [17:39] I didn't know that there were two different names as I think people normally say Green Emporium or that pizza place.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [17:44] I thought I would sell the no listen. Yeah, but they kind of wanted to do something different at the time and no one was interested in buying.

So, I sat there for like almost three years, and in 2008 I said, you know what, let's just make pizza because we were doing fine dining and it was very hot. It was like tablecloths and this and that and, you know. And he was going nuts. I mean he was making food from Bosnia and Herzegovina; we had all kind of events of food. And he was cooking all these different things that he thought of.

And then finally, I said, let's do pizza. Well, I was born in Brooklyn. I know a good pizza. And he came up with the dough and we created it and there was a hit.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [18:36] Well, your pizza was fantastic. I was always busy. It was a great place.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [18:38] Yeah.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [18:39] It was always busy. It was a great place. What time did it close?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [18:44] Nine o'clock, nine thirty.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [18:46] Were there ever any late nights?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [18:48] Oh yeah, nobody went home. It was funky and fun and lively.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [18:53] There were lines of cars down the road. It would just be lines and lines of cars.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [18:55] We used to have more fun when they closed.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [18:59] And where all the neighbors accepting of a funky restaurant?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [19:03] Well, you know I think it caught on more when we did the pizza.

Chelsea Jordan Makely: [19:07] Mm hmm.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [19:07] They weren't coming when we did fine dining. That's why I didn't want to do it.

Michael Collins: [19:13] Everything was expensive, you know?

Cynthia McLaughlin: [19:16] You could go there and be seated at eating your dinner and people would be coming in to get pizzas to pick up pizzas and there were, you know, people of all walks of farmers, walking in because you wanted it, to go.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [19:26] And then we hired people to go and deliver. Them too. We were delivering, yeah.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [19:30] Can you tell us, first described for anybody who hasn't seen it, the flag piece, and can you tell us about its background?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [19:43] This happened right after *9/11*, and I was working with someone who used to help me do my neon work because Pine Hill had burned down. They had a Fire there and the place sprung down, yeah.

Michael Collins: [19:58] On March 17th, it was on Saint Patrick's Day. And somebody we knew was taking over the kitchen or the restaurants, you know, Pine Hill and anyway, he never got the chance to open up.

Because of the fire and then they did repair it after that.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [20:24] Anyway, I was working there, and I was doing an installation of a lot of neon things that I had done and then well, we got involved with the the the flag because Kenny Shearer, who owned his father was one of the people that owned the property.

And he called me. He said to me, I wanna, I wanna do a flag. I said, what do you mean you wanna do a flag? I wanna do it in neon. I said you wanna do a neon flag, I said. How big do you wanna do the flag?

He said, well, I don't know like 20 feet, 30 feet of course, you know, so, you know, neon looks a lot larger. You don't have to really, you know, do all to make it that big. Well, anyway, we wound up building a flag on his property and we lit it after *9/11*. And, you know, went over very well.

And I'm actually creating my 4th book which is going to be my neon book and I think the the this story about the flag I have my story about how I did it I have Kenny's story about what he did. He built it with his brother, and we all got together.

I went around to the banks, I went to different places. I collected money. So that we could you know, we could build the structure that Kenny wanted to do and then I had my gallery at the time in Brooklyn.

So, I brought all the neon up and you know, Kenny was good enough and the funny thing is that cows, I never knew it, eat neon tubes.

All: What? [22:00] *[laughter]*

Michael Collins: [22:12] It's just goats that...

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [22:14] It was so funny because we lit the flag, and I couldn't believe I was one of the last ones to go up and see it lit. I kept saying, you know, it's got to be good.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [22:20] It's gotta be good.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [22:24] What color was it?

Michael Collins: [22:27] It's the color of the flag. Red, white and blue. It's there. It's still there.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [22:32] Yeah. It's different now though. Well, what happened is I think he has decided he's not. I think we had it WMECO, the electric company was so wonderful to us. They were charging us 50 bucks a month for the electric to light it.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [22:48] Oh yeah.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [22:50] And I'm trying to talk Kenny into redoing that these days, but you know. I mean, it might be a little difficult for him to come up with the money right now, but we had a campaign going on for a while. We created a postcard, and we left it at the gas station in Shelburne and Colrain.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [23:12] How much does it cost?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [23:13] \$50 to light it up. They built the line from the road up to the flag.

Michael Collins: [23:24] With no charge. Because you know, they figure it's good for the community.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [23:29] They did all the work.

Michael Collins: [23:29] For everybody you know.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [23:35] They were wonderful to us. And I couldn't believe it. I kept saying, you know, when, when I went up to see it, I said this has got to be good. You know I want to. I wanted it to look a certain way. I didn't. I didn't want it to look cheap.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [23:45] Were you so excited to see it all lit up?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [23:46] Yeah. And I had it in my mind how I was going to do it. And I couldn't believe when I got there, everybody was there screaming hard, honking horns and this and that. And. And it was wonderful. It was a wonderful night, the first night that we lit the flag.

So and then we found out what happens is three's cows that graze in that field and the cows are going up to the tubes on the but they had to build, they had to build a wall to stop the cows from going up because I kept replacing all the tubes, you know the cows are eating the the neon tube..

I never knew cows would eat neon tube.

Unknown speaker: [24:20] Oh my God!

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [24:21] That's terrible.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo [24:25] You know, I think what happened after 9/11 with the horror that it was and everything, the people, the flag becomes the symbol of everything that you believe in. You know, and it was a very strong symbol to rely on. after 9/11 happened because 9/11 was a tragedy. You know everything., The World Trade Center collapsing and all that. It was my way of trying to celebrate what had happened in New York.

And I remember when I drove to Brooklyn to get the neon, I could see the smoke still coming up from the World Trade Center. For days and days, even weeks after, the smoke kept coming up and I was going into Brooklyn on the Brooklyn Queens Expressway. It was, it was. It was horrible. You know, and I felt very good, when we you felt good as a, as an *American* and you realize that this is important.

Michael Collins: [25:40] And many people would, you know, that they knew that we had something to do with the flag because we were in the neon business. So, I'd be at Foster's at the supermarket and the lady would say that flag is so wonderful.

She said, "When my grandchildren come up the road, they would salute the flag" and they would say oh you did such a beautiful job flag. I'd say thank you.

Cynthia McLaughlin [26:13] What happened to that little old car that you used to have out there?

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [26:18] Well, somebody finally got me to sell it.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [26:19] They made you an offer, you couldn't refuse.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [26:25] You know what? I loved that car, and I was stupid to do it but of course he, he only wanted to give me \$100. That's all I got. But yeah, I paid thirteen. I paid \$1300 for it but you know the running the running board, everything was going.

You could see the road when you were driving. There was no floor left.

Michael Collins: [26:50] And the kid that sells it to him says just don't use the radio.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [26:56] Oh yeah, that's the best thing I was going, he says to me, never, never use the radio.

Michael Collins: [27:07] He wanted to hear some nice music.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [27:09] And I turned on the radio and fire!

Chelsea Jordan Makely: [27:12] Oh no.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [27:13] Like, you wouldn't believe it coming out, it looked like something in a movie. Fire coming and you know how I stopped it? I shut the radio off. So, the guy who bought it, I said never turn on the radio. It's true.

I had Spotty 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. And the last one was special. Lucky Spotty was one, number four, and this one, the last one was, Special Spotty. And of course, when we went to get her, the woman said. I have a special dog. Nobody, nobody.

Michael Collins: [27:31] Nobody wanted her. No, nobody wanted her.

Cynthia McLaughlin: [27:48] You get nervous when someone says that.

Michael Collins: [27:59] They were all you know. What are they called? Rescue.

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [28:02] Rescues.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [28:07] Well, when I was a kid, you know, remember when you went and had to learn how to read? And what was the lesson?

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [28:16] Mm-hmm. Dick and Jane.

Pacifico (Tony) Palumbo: [28:18] Right. Right. Right. So that's why my dog is Spotty.

Michael Collins: [28:20] Well, I figured if I ever got Alzheimer's, and somebody said what's the dog's name? I would remember it was Spotty. *[laughing]*

Chelsea Jordan-Makely: [28:31] You were forward-looking. *[laughter]*

Michael Collins: [28:34] Yeah. *[laughter]*

♪ [Good Summer Rain by Erica Wheeler and Crit Harmon]: [28:36] ♪

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that soft summer rain.
Over the corn fields
Of this river flood plain.

Over the green hills,
And the roadside stands,
Where you'd pay leaving money
In an old coffee can

There's the broken gas pumps,
And the barn falling down,
I can see the swimming hole,
Where the river's fat and round.

That farm still haunts me, like it's calling out my name
Don't it seem like a waste now, of good summer rain?

There's more people moving in
Everybody needs a home
So they put up stores and houses
On the fields that I have known

Right on the richest soil
You're ever gonna find
Traffic there backs up there
for miles and miles

So your children may not know it
The way that I did
Up the river road how
We use to live

That farm still haunts me, like it's calling out my name
Don't it seem like a waste now, of good summer rain?

It's almost time for second planting, I can smell it in the air
How I wish I'd never sold that place, not there's just asphalt, everywhere.

I miss the music,
How I heard it ring
Across the fields and farms
Of the way life's always been.

That farm still haunts me, like it's calling out my name
Don't it seem like a waste now, of good summer rain?
Don't it seem like a waste now, of good summer rain?