

The Crash At Crush

Brian Burns

In the year of 1896, when the Katy railroad was king,
And the fruits of farm and industry were carried by steel and s
team,
The town of Crush was christened for a day, and folks came from
far and
Wide
To gather there in the sweltering heat and watch two trains col
lide.

Two locomotives, breathing steam, sat face-to-
face on the track,
Then slowly their wheels began to turn as the engineers throttl
ed them
Back.
Both climbed a grade leaving two miles between, on the hills th
ey drew to a
Hush,
And forty-thousand people waited down below to witness the cras
h at Crush.

Clickety-clack, clickety-clack, wheels a-
rumblin' on the railroad track,
Once they go they can't turn back, once they go they can't turn
back.

He locked the lever back to the second notch just after the sig
nal came,
He stayed on board for sixteen exhausts, and then he jumped off
of the
Train.
The young engineer watched her roar down the hill and a chill r
an through
His soul,
For he knew that neither man nor God above could stop what woul
d now
Unfold.

The engines met in a thunderous crash and climbed each other to
ward the
Sky,
The impact rattled the earth for miles around, and the twisted
wreckage did
Fly.
In a moment more the boilers exploded, and the steam blocked ou
t the sun,
Some lost their lives while others lie bleeding, and the rest o
f them could
Only run.

Clickety-clack, clickety-clack, wheels a-
rumblin' on the railroad track,
Once they go they can't turn back, once they go they can't turn
back.

In a cotton field near Waco, Texas between two peaceful hills
A sign reminds us to hold respect for the power of the beasts w
e build,
And you and I in our lifetimes will never get to feel such a ru
sh
As the people who saw and lived to tell of the awesome crash at
Crush.

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rumblin' on the railroad track,
Once they go they can't turn back, once they go they can't turn
back.