

Alligator

Charlie Daniels

Well, if you ever go back into Wooley Swamp, well, you better not go at night.
There's things out there in the middle of them woods that make a strong man
die from fright. Things that crawl and things that fly and things that creep
around on the ground. And they say the ghost of Lucius Clay gets up and he walks around.

But I couldn't believe it. I just had to find out for myself. And I couldn't conceive
it 'cause I never would have listened to nobody else. And I couldn't believe it.
I just had to find out for myself there's some things in this world you just can't explain.

The old man lived in the Wooley Swamp way back in Booger Woods. He never
did do a lot of harm in the world, but he never did do no good. People didn't
think too much of him. They all thought he acted funny. The old man didn't
care about people anyway. All he cared about was his money. He'd stuff it all
down in mason jars and he'd bury it all around. And on certain nights if the
moon was right he'd dig it up out of the ground. He'd pour it all out on the floor
of his shack and run his fingers through it. Yeah, Lucius Clay was a greedy old
man and that's all that there was to it.

But I couldn't believe it. I just had to find out for myself. And I couldn't conceive
it 'cause I never would have listened to nobody else. And I couldn't believe it.
I just had to find out for myself there's some things in this world you just can't explain.

Cable boys was white trash. They lived over on Carver's Creek. They were
mean as a snake and sneaky as a cat and belligerent when they'd speak. One
night the oldest brother said, "Y'all meet me at the Wooley Swamp later. We'll
take old Lucius's money and we'll feed him to the alligators." They found the
old man out in the back with a shovel in his hand, thirteen rusty mason jars
just dug up out of the sand. And they all went crazy and they beat the old man,
and they picked him up off of the ground. Threw him in the swamp and

stood there
and laughed as the black water sucked him down. Then they turned around and
went back to the shack and picked up the money and ran. They hadn't gone
nowhere when they realized they were running in quicksand. And they
struggled
and they screamed but they couldn't get away and just before they went under
they could hear that old man laughing in a voice as loud as thunder.
And that's been fifty years ago and you can go by there yet. There's
a spot in
the yard in the back of that shack where the ground is always wet. And on
summer nights, if the moon is right down by that dark footpath, you can
hear three young men screaming. You can hear one old man laugh.
Well, if you ever go back into Wooley Swamp, well, you better not go
at night.
There's things out there in the middle of them woods that make a strong man
die from fright. Things that crawl and things that fly and things that
creep
around on the ground. And they say the ghost of Lucius Clay gets up and
he walks around.

But I couldn't believe it. I just had to find out for myself. And I couldn't
conceive
it 'cause I never would have listened to nobody else. And I couldn't
believe it.
I just had to find out for myself there's some things in this world you
just can't explain.
There's some things in this world you just can't explain