

# The Ride

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I was six years old, my brother was ten  
One July day came runnin' in  
Seen a ferris wheel at the edge of town  
So, of course, we headed on down

Well, it took us an hour to walk that far  
Carryin' our fortune in a Mason jar  
It was all pretty sad, a cheap county fair  
With a few old rides but there was ponies there

Well, the ponies stunk and the air was still  
In that dusty circle behind the ferris wheel  
This old guy smellin' of smoke and rum  
Swung me up and sat me down on one

Well, I'd never rode a horse but I'd seen it done  
Cowboy movies made it look like fun  
This old man whispered a few soft words  
It was the best advice I've ever heard

He said, "Sit tall in the saddle, hold your head up high  
Keep your eyes fixed where the trail meets the sky  
And live like you ain't afraid to die  
And don't be scared, just enjoy your ride"

I went up a kid with shakin' hands  
But I came down a full grown man  
It was like he'd cast some voodoo spell  
Things were different for me now, I could tell

'Cause whenever troubles come wanderin' in  
His rhyme would pop in my head again  
And somehow I rode through the needles and nails  
Brambles and thorns that life entails

He said, "Sit tall in the saddle, hold your head up high  
Keep your eyes fixed where the trail meets the sky  
And live like you ain't afraid to die  
And don't be scared, just enjoy your ride"

Well, I know some day, farther down the road  
I'll come to the edge of the great unknown  
There'll stand a black horse riderless  
And I wonder if I'm ready for this

So I'll saddle him up and he'll switch his tail  
And I'll tip my hat and bid farewell  
And lift my song into the air  
That I learned at that dusty fair

Sit tall in the saddle, hold your head up high  
Keep your eyes fixed where the trail meets the sky  
And live like you ain't afraid to die  
And don't be scared, just enjoy your ride  
Now, don't be scared, just enjoy your ride