

## The Hard Way

Eric Church

Only fools would race down Gristmill Road  
Let alone in angry weather  
That's what I tell everyone I know  
Now that I know better

That's a lesson I wish I would have learned  
Without having to watch my Mustang burn  
Before my best buddy had to wind up hurt  
And his whole life was changed  
That's a lesson I wish I didn't learn  
The hard way

Only a fool would keep a diamond ring  
In a box on the top of his closet  
He came so close, he almost asked  
It was right there in his pocket

That's a lesson I wish I would have learned  
Before standing in the back row of that church  
Watching her daddy givin' her  
To the man who took my place  
That's a lesson I wish I didn't learn  
The hard way

Regrets been known to give a man a beatin'  
But I ain't in the mood for fighting back this evening

Only fools don't take the time of day  
They stay too busy running  
To stop just once and tell their dad  
Just how much they love him

That's a lesson I wish I would have learned  
Before the phone call came and it was her  
No, Mama never had to say a word  
I knew it was too late  
That's a lesson I wish I didn't learn  
The hard way... The hard way  
The hard way... The hard way