

# Hamlet Chicken Plant Disaster

Jello Biafra

Down in Hamlet, North Carolina  
They had a chicken plant sure did explode  
Them tar heels trapped like burnin' rats  
Cuz the boss man chained the door closed

My mama was born in  
A town called Hamlet  
Sleepy little place on the Seaboard line  
My papa worked on the railroad  
And my granny went out her mind

One day the railroad  
It went busted  
Like Richmond County ain't broke enough  
So this Yankee carpetbagger  
Figured to make a little money on Hamlet's bad luck

Built a brand new chicken fixin' plant  
And they paid that minimum wage  
But the boss man said no unions  
Or he'd move his plant far away

Merele Etta Johnson  
She was late for work  
Heard a thunderin' roar out on the highway  
Musta been NASCAR over at Rockingham  
Or just Merle Etta's judgment day

8:15 in the mornin'  
Chicken plant burst into flames  
People trampled, squashed and burned up  
Just to keep the profit margin  
One iota higher

Everybody gotta work in this world  
Some folks lucky-some folks ain't  
But that bastard that chained the doors shut  
I'm gonna rip him through p!

When I was a little boy  
With a buzzsaw hair cut  
Go down to Hamlet, watch the trains  
Now the tourists stop on the highway  
Get a little look at the chicken plant workers' remains