

The Legend

Jerry Reed

You heard about the legend of Jesse James
John Henry just to mention some names
But there's a truck driving legend in the south today
A man called Bandit from Atlanta G.A.

Every gear jammer knows his name
They swear he got ice water running in his veins
Foot like lead and nerves like steel
He's gonna go to glory riding 18 wheels

He left Atlanta back in '63
Calling him the loner from Tennessee
He hit Monteville in the driving rain
So hard he couldn't even see the passing lane

Well, he started down the grade when he lost the gear
He hit them brakes found he had no air
The Monteville grade is steep and long
And everybody that seen it thought the Bandit was gone

Well, his truck jack-knifed, turned completely 'round
He was coming down backwards 'bout the speed of sound
A lot of folks seen him and they all say
He had his head out the window yelling, "Clear the way"

Well, he got to the bottom safe and sound
Everybody asked Bandit how he made it down
He said folks when the truck picked up too much speed
I just run along beside it and drug my feet

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