

# Almost Home

Joe Diffie

He had plastic bags wrapped around his shoes  
He was covered with the evening news  
Had a pair of old wool socks on his hands  
The bank sign was flashin' five below

It was freezin' rain and spittin' snow  
He was curled up behind some garbage cans  
I was afraid that he was dead, I gave him a gentle shake  
When he opened up his eyes, I said, "Old man, are you okay?"  
He said

"I just crawled out of a cottonwood tree  
I was runnin' from some honey bees  
Drip dryin' in the summer breeze  
After jumpin' into calico creek?"

"I was walkin' down an old dirt road  
Past a field of hay that had just been mowed  
Man, I wish you'd just left me alone  
'Cause I was almost home?"

And he said, "I was just comin' 'round the barn  
'Bout the time you grabbed my arm  
And I heard mama holler, "Son, hurry up?  
And I was close enough for my own nose  
To smell fresh cobbler on the stove?"

"And I saw daddy loadin' up the truck  
Cane poles on the tailgate  
Bobbers blowin' in the wind  
Since July of 55, that's as close as I've been?"

"Yeah, I just climbed out of a cottonwood tree  
I was runnin' from some honey bees  
Drip dryin' in the summer breeze  
After jumpin' into calico tree"

"I was walkin' down a old dirt  
Past a field of hay that had just been mowed  
Man, I wish you'd just left me alone  
I was almost home"

I said, "Old man, you're gonna freeze to death  
Let me drive you to the mission?  
He said, "Boy, if you'd left me alone right now I'd be fishin'?"

"I just climbed out of a cottonwood tree  
I was runnin' from some honey bees  
Drip dryin' in the summer breeze  
After jumpin' into calico creek"

"I was walkin' down an old dirt road  
Past a field of hay that had just been mowed  
Man, I wish you'd just left me alone  
Man, I wish you'd just left me alone [unverified]  
I was almost home, I was almost home"