

# One Piece At A Time

Johnny Cash

Well I left Kentucky back in '49 and  
Went to Detroit workin' on the assembly line  
The first year they had me puttin' wheels on Cadillacs

Every day I'd watch them beauties roll by  
And sometimes I'd hang my head and cry  
Cuz I always wanted me one that was long and black

One day I devised myself a plan  
That should be the envy of most any man  
I'd sneak it outta there in a lunchbox in my hand  
Now gettin' caught meant gettin' fired  
But I figured I'd have it all by the time I retired  
I'd have me a car worth at least 100 grand

I'd get it one piece at a time  
And it wouldn't cost me a dime  
You'll know it's me when I come through your town  
I'm gonna ride around in style  
I'm gonna drive everybody wild  
Cuz I'll have the only one there is around

So the very next day when I punched in  
With my big lunchbox and with help from my friend  
I left that day with a lunchbox full of gears  
I've never considered myself a thief  
But GM wouldn't miss just one little piece  
Especially if I strung it out over several years

The first day I got me a fuel pump  
And the next day I got me an engine and a trunk  
Then I got me a transmission and all the chrome  
The little things I could get in my big lunchbox  
Like nuts and bolts and all 4 shocks  
But the big stuff we snuck out my buddy's mobile home

Now up to now my plan went alright  
'Til we tried to put it all together one night  
And that's when we noticed that somethin' was definitely wrong

The transmission was a '53 and  
The motor turned out to be a '73 and  
When we tried to put in the bolts all the holes were gone

So we drilled it out so that it would fit and  
With a little help from an adapter kit  
We had that engine runnin' just like a song  
Now the headlights, they was another sight  
We had 2 on the left and 1 on the right  
But when we pulled out the switch all 3 of 'em come on

The back end looked kinda funny too  
But we put it together and when we got through  
Well that's when we noticed that we only had 1 tail fin  
About that time my wife walked out and  
I could see in her eyes that she had her doubts  
But she opened the door and said

"Honey, take me for a spin"

So we drove uptown just to get the tags and  
I headed her right on down main drag  
I could hear everybody laughin' for blocks around  
But up there at the court house they didn't laugh  
Cuz to type it up it took the whole staff and  
When they got through the title weighed 60 pounds

I'd got it one piece at a time  
And it didn't cost me a dime  
You'll know it's me when I come through your town  
I'm gonna ride around in style  
I'm gonna drive everybody wild  
Cuz I'll have the only one there is around

Uh, yeah Red Rider this is the Cotton Mouth in the  
Psycho Billy Cadillac, come on

Huh?

Uh, this is the Cotton Mouth and negatory on the  
Cost of this moe-sheen there Red Rider  
You might say I went right up to the factory and  
Picked it up, it's cheaper that way  
Uh, what model is it?