

# Wreck Of The Old 97

Johnny Cash

1. Well, they gave him his orders at Monroe, Virginia  
Sayin', "Steve you're way behind time  
This is not Thirty-Eight it is old Ninety-Seven  
you must put her into Spencer on time."
2. Then he turned and said to his black greasy fireman  
"Hey, shovel in a little more coal  
For when we cross that White Oak Mountain  
Watch old Ninety-Seven roll."
3. It's a mighty rough road from Lynchburg to Danville  
with a line on a three mile grade  
it was on that grade that he lost his airbrakes  
see what a jump he made
4. He was going down the grade makin' ninety miles an hour  
When his whistle broke into a scream  
He was found in the wreck, with his hand on the throttle,  
scalded to death by the steam
5. The telegram came from the Washington station  
this is how it read  
"Oh that brave engineer that run old Ninety-Seven  
is lying in old Danville dead"
6. So now all you ladies you better take fair warnin'  
From this time on and learn  
Never speak harsh words to your true lovin' husband  
he may leave you and never return