

# I Take A Lot Of Pride In What I Am

Merle Haggard

Things I learned in hobo jungle  
Were things they never taught me in a class room  
Like where to find a hand out  
While bummin' through Chicago in the afternoon

Hey, I'm not braggin' or complainin'  
I'm just talkin' to myself man to man  
This ol' mental fat I'm chewin' didn't take a lotta doin'  
But I take a lot of pride in what I am

I guess I grew up a loner  
I don't remember ever havin' any folks around  
But I keep thumbin' through the phonebooks  
And looking for my daddy's name in every town

And I meet lots of friendly people  
But I'll always wind up leavin' on the lam  
Hey, where I've been or where I'm goin'  
Didn't take a lotta knowin'

But I take a lot of pride in what I am  
I never travel in a hurry  
Because I got nobody waitin' for me anywhere  
Home is anywhere I'm livin'

If it's sleepin' on some vacant bench in City Square  
Or if I'm workin' on some road gang  
Or just livin' off the fat of our great land  
I never been nobody's idol but at least I got a title

And I take a lot of pride in what I am  
I never been nobody's idol  
I take a lot of pride in what I am  
I take a lot of pride in what I am