I've got a sad sad story friend that I don't like to tell I had a home and family when they locked me in this cell Well I've been here for eighteen years that's a long long time I know

But time don't mean a thing to me cause I've got life to go Well I went one night where the lights were bright just to see what I could see

I met up with an old friend who just thought the world of me He brought me drinks and he took me to every honky tonk in town The words were said and now he's dead I just had to bring him down

[fiddle - guitar]

Well it's been a long long time now since I've heard from my wi fe

I guess I'll be there with her yet if I hadn't used the knife Well I'll bet that little girl of mine don't realize or know Her daddy's been here eighteen years and still got life to go Well I'll bet there's not one man outside that's spent this lon g in jail

I'll be here in this prison till my body's just a shell No I can't be free to go and see the ones that I love so I've been here for eighteen years and I still got life to go I still got life to go I still got life to go