I've laid around and played around this old town too long Summer's almost gone, winter's comin' on
I've laid around and played around this old town too long And I feel like I've gotta travel on

High sheriff and police are ridin' after me Ridin' after me, oh, they're ridin' after me High sheriff and police are ridin' after me And I feel like I've gotta travel on

Papa writes to Johnny, Johnny can't come home No, Johnny can't come home, Johnny can't come home Papa writes to Johnny but Johnny can't come home 'Cause he's been on that chain gang too long

Gotta see my baby, gotta see her bad Gotta see her bad, oh, I gotta see her bad Gotta see my baby, gotta see her bad She's the best friend this poor boy ever had

I've laid around and played around this old town too long Summer's almost gone, winter's comin' on
I've laid around and played around this old town too long And I feel like I've gotta travel on

Oh, I feel like I've gotta travel on Oh, I feel like I've gotta travel on