

## Big John

Jimmy Dean

Every mornin' at the mine you could see him arrive  
He stood six-foot-six and weighed two-forty-five  
Kinda broad at the shoulder and narrow at the hip  
And everybody knew ya didn't give no lip to big John  
(Big John, big John)  
Big bad John (big John)  
Nobody seemed to know where John called home  
He just drifted into town and stayed all alone  
He didn't say much, kinda quiet and shy  
And if you spoke at all, you just said hi to Big John  
Somebody said he came from New Orleans  
Where he got in a fight over a Cajun Queen  
And a crashin' blow from a huge right hand  
Sent a Louisiana fellow to the promised land, big John  
(Big John, big John)  
Big bad John (big John)  
Then came the day at the bottom of the mine  
When a timber cracked and men started cryin'  
Miners were prayin' and hearts beat fast  
And everybody thought that they'd breathed their last, 'cept John  
Through the dust and the smoke of this man-made hell  
Walked a giant of a man that the miners knew well  
Grabbed a saggin' timber, gave out with a groan  
And like a giant oak tree he just stood there alone, big John  
(Big John, big John)  
Big bad John (big John)  
And with all of his strength he gave a mighty shove  
Then a miner yelled out "there's a light up above!"  
And twenty men scrambled from a would-be grave  
Now there's only one left down there to save, big John  
With jacks and timbers they started back down  
Then came that rumble way down in the ground  
And then smoke and gas belched out of that mine  
Everybody knew it was the end of the line for big John  
(Big John, big John)  
Big bad John (big John)  
Now, they never reopened that worthless pit  
They just placed a marble stand in front of it  
These few words are written on that stand  
At the bottom of this mine lies a big, big man  
Big John  
(Big John, big John)  
Big bad John (big John)  
(Big John) big bad John