

# Whenever Kindness Fails

Joe Ely

Crossed the desert in a dining car  
In the spring of '91  
Met some people drinkin' at the bar,  
They were laughin', havin' fun

Told 'em that I hadn't heard the joke  
That was so hilarious  
They said that I was just a dumb cowpoke  
I didn't want to make a fuss

So I shot them down, one by one  
And left them 'long the rails  
I only use my gun  
Whenever kindness fails

Moon was in the sign of Scorpio  
The sun was at my back  
I didn't know how far the train would go  
Till the law would find my track

Saw the brakeman and the engineer  
Drinking wine and eating brie  
I asked them who would brake and who would steer  
They started pointing back at me

I only have a momment to explain  
Just a chance to let you know  
When it's time to board that train  
There are 2 ways you can go.

You can ride the wind into the sun  
Feel a cool wind on your face  
Or you can laugh into a loaded gun  
And you'll likely lose your place

Yeah I shot them down, one by one  
And left them 'long the rails  
I only use my gun  
Whenever kindness fails

I shot them down, one by one  
And left them 'long the rails  
When I use my gun  
That lonesome whistle wails