

# John Oaks

Neil Young

John Oaks is in the neighborhood  
Protecting all the trees  
He's the master of irrigation  
And he knows what he sees

Grape farmers watering everywhere  
Pipes running where they please  
John sees his laws are broken  
Trees drowning where they breathe

Now John used to be a mellow man  
Drinking Chai and smoking weed  
Ain't no one in the county  
Ever see'd whatever he see'd

John Oaks, John Oaks  
John Oaks, John Oaks

Old John rides in his pickup  
With rakes and friends in the back  
Workers he takes with him  
Then he drives them all back

To protect them from the politicians  
Using them to get ahead  
Preying on the people  
Trying to get inside their heads

John Oaks is really stand-up  
He won't take shit lying down  
He calls it like he sees it  
And he puts his money down

John Oaks, John Oaks  
John Oaks, John Oaks

One day at the demonstration  
John Oaks was standing up  
He arrived there at the location  
In his old pickup truck

Took a rake in his hand  
And his workers by his side  
Stood there waiting for his turn  
To speak and turn the tide

When he found himself surrounded  
By police everywhere  
They tried to take his workers to jail  
When he grabbed one by his hair

John Oaks, John Oaks  
John Oaks, John Oaks

Shots rang out and people yelled  
As the police took control  
Shot a black man right where he fell

With a sniper on the knoll

John Oaks saw law and order  
Was leading him astray  
Tried to get back in his pickup  
With his workers to get away

That's when the police moved in  
And stood there in his way  
John started up his pickup  
And that was his last day

John Oaks, John Oaks  
John Oaks, John Oaks

They said he had a pistol  
When the old pickup backfired  
And shot him there behind the wheel  
And then John Oaks expired

The workers grabbed the rakes  
And that's all that I can say  
They went to the cemetery  
And they stay there to this day

John Oaks, John Oaks  
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