I was born on a sidewalk in a city I don't know
In '65 I took arms and got on a boat
They told me to shoot at wherever I saw smoke
I could not stop laughing, Lord, it seemed like a joke
Oh, oh
Oh, oh

In '75 at twenty-five I had me a son
And he died when he was young because of my gun
Left out in the open in case I had to run
I could not believe it, neither did anyone
Oh, oh
Oh, oh

They found me in Shreveport, just me and my knife They cleaned off my blood and they sent me to life For thirty years I lay awake in the night Thinkin' 'bout the jungle and blood and the fight Oh, fight

Then in 2005, I's let out on the street
A young fifty-five and now that's where I sleep
I do my best workin' with a cup and a sign
Askin' folks please spare some change or some time
Or some time
Oh, some time

Yesterday a young man came and stood at my feet
He asked me what I wanted, I said something to eat
He said killers with guns, they belong on the street
I thought about that and I laughed till I cried
That's the best damn joke I'd heard in a long time

A very long time Well, a very long time, time, time A very long time

Lord, a very long time A very long time A very long time