

Bruce Springsteen **"Wild Billy's Cirkus Story"**

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The Machinist climbs his ferris wheel like a brave and
the fire-eater's lyin' in a pool of sweat victim of the
heatwave,
Behind the tent the hired hand tightens his legs on the
sword swallows blade,
Circus town's on the shortwave
Well the runway lies ahead like a great false dawn,
Fat lady, big mama, Missy Bimbo sits in her chair and
yawns,
And the man-beast lies in his cage sniffin' popcorn and
the midget licks his fingers and suffers Missy Bimbo's
scorn
Circus town's been born.
And a press roll drummer go, ballerina to-and-fro
cartwheelin' up on that tightrope,
With a cannon blast, lightin' flash, movin' fast through
the tent, Mars bent,
He's gonna miss his fall, oh God save the human
cannonball.
And the flying zambini's watch Marguarita do her neck
twist,
And the ringmaster gets the crowd to count along: 95,
96, 97.

A ragged suitcase in his hand, he steals silently away
from the circus
grounds,
And the highway's haunted by the carnival sounds
They dance like a great greasepaint ghost on the wind,
A man in baggy pants, a lonely face, a crazy grin,
runnin' home to some small Ohio town
Jesus, send some sweet women to save all your clowns

And circus boy dances like a monkey on barbed wire,
and the barker romances with a junkie, she's got a flat
tire,
And now the elephants dance real funky and the band
plays like a jungle fire,
Circus town's on the live wire.
And the strong man Sampson lifts the midget, little
Tiny Tim, up on his
shoulders, way up, and carries carries him on down the

midway past the kids, past the sailors, to his dimly lit
trailer,
And the ferris wheel turns and turns like it ain't ever
gonna stop,
And the circus boss leans over and whispers into the
little boy's ear, hey son you want to try the big top?
All aboard, Nebraska's our next stop.

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