

Leslie Carter

"Rhododendron Honey"

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What do we do for our freedom, oh, what do we do for
our corn?
Poor Big Boss Jones an' 'is bully boys came here last
Sunday morn.
He marched right into the village square an' grabbed
everybody in sight
An' made a big speech about how he'd come to set this
country right.
He said that he'd come to save us all from livin' in
anarchy.
He'd give us a government an' laws again, the way it
used to be.
He swore he'd make this country great like it was
before the war,
And all that he wanted was half our crops like taxes
was before.
When he was finished, he took his boys and went to the
meetin' hall
An' chased out everybody left in sight and moved in
one and all.
So we strolled over to the teacher's house and held
town meetin' there
To talk 'bout what we were gonna do, just how and
when and where.
Early next mornin' the old folks come, all smilin' to beat
the band.
They told Boss Jones they were glad he's here, 'n
they're proud to shake his hand.
They fawned on him an' his bully boys an' flattered 'em
left an' right
An' promised a big feast in their honor in the meetin'
hall that night.
That evenin' everyone in town showed up, all bringin'
the food an' beer.
Boss Jones, he sat at the head of the table, and all his
boys sat near.
Oh, they ate 'n drank 'n bragged no end 'bout what
they were gonna do
While they scarfed up rhododendron honey and
amonida stew.
Now, we'd been careful o' what we ate, so we didn't

take no harm,
But the Boss an' 'is bully boys all keeled over while the
coffee still was warm.
We dragged 'em down to the old mine shaft that was
dug before the war
An' dropped 'em down there with all the others who'd
tried that trick before.
Yes, we remember the world that was and the way that
it used to be,
And we'd just rather be left alone; we're used to bein'
free.
Don't want no more of laws or bosses, don't want no
government here.
I hope they don't come again too soon ... they've tried
three times this year

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