

Steve Earle & THE Dukes

"Copperhead Road"

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Well, my name's John Lee Pettimore
Same as my daddy and his daddy before
You hardly ever saw Granddaddy down here
He only came to town about twice a year

He'd buy a hundred pounds of yeast and some copper
line
Everybody knew that he made moonshine

Now the revenue man wanted Granddaddy bad
He headed up the holler with everything he had
It's before my time but I've been told
He never came back from Copperhead Road

Now Daddy ran the whiskey in a big block Dodge
Bought it at an auction at the Mason's Lodge
Johnson County Sheriff painted on the side
Just shot a coat of primer then he looked inside

Well, him and my uncle tore that engine down
I still remember that rumblin' sound

Well, the sheriff came around in the middle of the
night
Heard mama cryin', knew something wasn't right
He was headed down to Knoxville with the weekly load
You could smell the whiskey burnin' down Copperhead
Road

I volunteered for the Army on my birthday
They draft the white trash first, 'round here anyway
I done two tours of duty in Vietnam
And I came home with a brand new plan

I take the seed from Colombia and Mexico
Just plant it up the holler down Copperhead Road

Now the D.E.A.'s got a chopper in the air
I wake up screaming like I'm back over there
I learned a thing or two from ol' Charlie, don't you know
You better stay away from Copperhead Road

Copperhead Road
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