

## Porter Wagoner "Skid Row Joe"

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Skid Row Joe

Last night that's who I found, in the dirty part of town  
Lost, forgotten with no place to go  
Tormented with a bitter taste, outcast by the human  
race  
A mask of torture was the face of Skid Row Joe

He walked up to where I stood on the street  
Said, "Pardon me Mister, now don't get me wrong  
I don't want your money though heaven knows I could  
use it"

"But you see this is my home and you see  
The other bar down the street, well that's my home too  
I noticed you starin' at me a while ago  
You recognized me, didn't you?"

I said, "Yeah, Joe I know who you are  
You was one time a real famous singin' star, one of my  
favorites"

He said, "Well I guess you heard they took my babies  
away from me"  
I said, "Yeah, Joe I, I read about it in the papers"  
Then he turned his head away and I saw the tears fall  
in the place

And he turned to me and he said, "You know Mister  
This is the only place in the world that I'm not ashamed  
To show my face, but I'm gonna quit, yes sir I'm gonna  
quit"

"And I'm gonna shave and comb my hair and get me a  
clean white shirt  
Then I'm gonna walk up to her door  
When she answers I'm gonna stand up real proud and  
tall  
Then I'm gonna get on my knees"

Then I'll say, "Sweetheart if you'll take me back  
I'll spend the rest of my life makin' up to you for what

I've done  
I'm so ashamed of myself and this I want you to know"

"Then I'm gonna take my two little babies  
And I'm gonna hold 'em so close to me  
I ain't gonna never let 'em go"

I guess I should've told him then that she'd already  
remarried again  
But after hearin' what he'd said to me  
Why there wasn't no way I could add to his misery  
So I said, "Good luck, my best to you"

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