

## William Nowik

### "Pocket Change"

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Im sittin in this diner suckin down week old coffee  
And they didnt have any cream and they didnt have  
any sugar  
And their grits were gritty and their eggs were even  
grittier  
But I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

Let me tell you something mister, I spent last night with  
my best girlfriends  
Best friend and her sister  
The moon was bright and I was tight  
Higher than the cliched kite  
Man, I was a sight  
And I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

And I went to start my car  
But my car wouldnt go  
And I didnt have no money  
I didnt have no dough  
And B. Bumble & The Stingers was playin on the radio  
And the river, the river was filled up with silt  
You cant even get a boat outa here anymore

I wondered, you know I just wondered why it happened  
that  
way  
It all happened so fast  
Look out, it was already today  
And I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon  
I wonder why she wants me any old way

In the mirror, I looked over the bar, man, I looked like a  
raccoon  
Now the radio is playin John Lee Hooker goin Boom,  
Boom, Boom, Boom  
The waitress poured more coffee  
It was so thick you could cut it with a spoon  
And I looked into her eyes and I fell right into her

wound

But I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

And that time was approaching soon

I stepped outside and the world went by so fast it made  
my head spin

I decided I had to immediately duck back in

The waitress, she came over and she asked me

Hey, why didnt I like it

Im not eating my food

And I said no, I just dont think I was hungry as I was

The food is really good

And she said youre lying

I said no, Im just trying to be polite

She says now Ive heard everything

Goodnight

And I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

Man, I looked over my shoulder

And in walked this man who was seven feet tall

And he asks me, he said, are you Nelson Algren

And I said no, son

And he pulled out his gun and he says well then

Give me your wallet

And I said I aint got one

And then he stuck his gun in my face and he just said  
just in case your lyin

You better stand up and let me take a look

And as he rumbled through my pocket he found a book

And he looked at me and he says whats this and I said  
it was a book I wrote

And he just laughed man, he just laughed at me

And he gave it back and he said well, then Im gonna  
take your coat

And I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

I was supposed to be getting married in the afternoon

So I said, I said shoot me, I said shoot me but please  
make it quick

Cause that stuff I drank the night before, it was, it was  
makin me really

Frightfully sick

And I was supposed to be getting married in the  
afternoon

I was supposed to be getting married in the afternoon

I was supposed to be getting married in the afternoon

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