Tom T. Hall "A Week In The Country Jail"

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One time I spent a week inside a little country jail And I don't guess I'll ever live it down I was sittin' at a red light when these two men came and got me And said that I was speeding through their town

Well, they said,"tomorrow morning you can see the judge then go."

They let me call one person on the phone I thought I'd be there overnight so I just called my boss To tell him I'd be off but not for long

Well, they motioned me inside a cell with seven other guys

One little barred up window in the rear

My cellmates said if they had let me bring some money in

We ought to send the jailer for some beer

Well, I had to pay him double 'cause he was the man in charge

And the jailer's job was not the best in town Later on his wife brought hot bologna, eggs and gravy The first day I was there I turned it down

Well, next morning they just let us sleep but I was up real early Wonderin' when I'd get my release

Later on we got more hot bologna, eggs and gravy And by now I wasn't quite so hard to please

Two days later when I thought that I had been forgotten The sheriff came in chewin' on a straw He said, "where is the guy who thinks that this is indianapolis? I'd like to talk to him about the law." Well, I told him who I was and told him I was working steady And I really should be gettin' on my way That part about me bein' who I was did not impress him He said, "the judge'll be here any day."

The jailer had a wife and let me tell you she was awful But she brought that hot bologna every day And after seven days she got to lookin' so much better I asked her if she'd like to run away

The next mornin' that old judge took every nickel that I had

And he said, "son, let this teach you not to race." The jailer's wife was smilin' from the window as I left In thirty minutes I was out of state

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