

## Tom T. Hall

### "Hitchhiker"

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(Tom T. Hall)

is autobiographical, but I become the driver instead of the hitch-hiker.

I took poetic license here.

I don't know why it is every time I take a trip  
It's always raining somewhere down the line  
This particular night it was in Prestonsburg Kentucky  
I stopped to give a country boy a ride.

I saw him running toward the car he carried an old  
suitcase  
A cigarette was dangling from his lips  
He threw the suitcase in the back and as he got inside  
He said I'm sorry but I'm awful wet.

I said where are you headed kid and he said to  
Louisville  
Said he had an uncle there who ran the store  
Said his daddy died three weeks ago and they didn't  
own the place  
And they said he couldn't live there anymore.

He said his education was that he could read and write  
He quit school the time his dad got hurt  
Ain't much goes on in Prestonsburg and he was  
seventeen  
And he had to go some place to find some work.

He talked about a girl whose father had a lotta money  
He said he'd send and get her if he could  
His daddy taught him all there was about tobacco  
farming  
And he said he played the banjo pretty good.

We stopped to get a sandwich and the waitress  
brought the menu  
And I noticed that he read the prices first  
He ordered him a hot dog with a lots of table ketchup  
And water seemed to satisfy his thirst.

Well it took awhile but I insisted that I'll pay the ticket  
Excused myself and went out to the car  
He came out got in the car and he handed me a  
quarter  
And he said you left this layin' on the bar.

I dropped him off in Lexington and drove down to  
Bowling Green  
And I thought boy you'll never make without help  
And then I got to thinking about the days when I was  
younger  
And I started out the same darn way myself.

--- Instrumental ---

Well, I don't know why it is every time I take a trip  
It's always raining somewhere down the line...

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