

Keeping Austin Weird
(Tune: “Oh Susannah”)

March 2018

He came from California about a month ago	C G
With a minivan, a killer tan, and a pocketful of dough	C G C
Got himself a condo in 78704	C G
Parking for his Vespa and a lone star on the door	C G C
Stingy brim Fedora and a perfect Van Dyke beard	F C G
He’s doing his part to break your heart	C Am
Keeping Austin weird	C G C

Down on old South Congress where they used to play the blues
He’s on the scene in skinny jeans and checkered tennis shoes
i-phone in his pocket, e-cig in his hand
He’s got everything he needs to shine in Hipsterland
 He’s the new face of this old town, just like the Bubbas feared
 He’s doing his part to break your heart, keeping Austin weird

He can’t tell the two-step from the Cotton Eyed Joe
But he’s a star at any bar where the swing dancers go
At the Continental they are showing off their class
You know they’re not regulars cause they’re drinking from a glass
 He likes his latte mocha, his tuna lightly seared
 He’s doing his part to break your heart keeping Austin weird

He knows every tapas bar in this part of town
Only watches indie films at the Violet Crown
Shops at Central Market for imported Brie
Wears his Red Man T-shirt with a touch of irony
 He does it all in SoCo since South Congress disappeared
 He’s doing his part to break your heart keeping Austin weird

“Keep Austin Weird” is a slogan dating from the 1970s “Outlaw Country” days. The tech boom of the 2000s, bringing hipsters and “Californicators” to town, brought in a shinier kind of weirdness. This song satirizes the transformation.