

The Wreck of the old 97 (Johnny Cash)

Intro: [G][D][G]

They [G] give him his orders at [C] Monroe, Virginia,
Sayin', [G] "Steve, you're way behind [D] time
This is [G] not 38, this is [C] Old 97
[G] Put her into [D] Spencer on [G] time."

Well he [G] turned around and said to his [C] big, greasy fireman
"Hey [G] shovel on a little more [D] coal
And [G] when we cross that [C] wide Oak Mountain
[G] Watch Old ninety [D] seven [G] roll."

Instrumental verse

It's a [G] mighty rough road from [C] Lynchburg to Danville
On a [G] line with a three mile [D] grade
It was [G] on that grade that he [C] lost his air brakes
[G] See what a [D] jump he [G] made.

He was [G] goin' down the grade makin' [C] ninety miles an hour
His [G] whistle broke into a [D] scream
He was [G] found in the wreck with his [C] hand on the throttle
[G] Scalded to [D] death by the [G] steam.

Now [G] all you ladies you [C] better take a warning
From [G] this time on and [D] learn
Never [G] speak harsh words to your [C] true love or husband
He may [G] leave you and [D] never re-[G]turn.