

# Albert Collins, Don't Go Reaching Across My Plate

If one thing in this world  
I just can't stand  
Is bein' at the table wit' an ill-mannered man

Now, if he's sittin' on your left  
Before you could eat a bite  
He'll reach across your plate  
An' you know that ain't right

Now I like to eat, as well as any man  
But there's some rules, a fool should understand  
When ya have one little helpin'  
An' one extra piece of cake  
I tell ev'rybody, don't go reachin' across my plate

I was at a party last night, at over Big Murray  
Cat reached 'cross my plate  
Got a coat sleeve in my gravy  
I didn't say a word, just looked him dead in the eye  
He reached across my plate, an' cut him a piece a pie

Now I don't care if he did it for a prank  
I don't care, if you had a drink  
Especially when I'm out, a-with my date  
Now don't you go reachin' across my plate

At a party last week, there was some high-class folks  
Ev'rything on the table, an' that ain't no joke  
They had barbecue possum, rattlesnake gravy

Chicken fried skunk, an' it smelt real crazy

Ev'rything went fine, but one thing made me blue  
A cat reached across my plate, for some armadillo<sup>3</sup> stew  
Now when you at the table, you act real nice  
You say, "pass me that" or "pass me the platter"  
But just because you hungry, an' happen to come in late  
Don't you go reachin', across MY plate

"Pass some a-that turkey over there, baby!"

"No, don't give me none of that skunk, I don't want none a-that"

"I, I beg your pardon"

"If this cat stop reachin' 'cross my plate, I can maybe ask for somethin'"

"A pass me a little a-that turkey there, baby"

Na na na na-na-na-na

Yeah-heya

"Party' nice, party's nice"

"Yeah, ah give gimme some a that chicken over there, baby"

"Chicken fried skunk? "ah no"