

# Buck 65, Craftsmanship

Most folks spend their days daydreaming or finding clues  
My whole life I've been here at the train station shining shoes  
I started when I was nine, on my own and taught myself  
No complaints, I'm doing pretty good and I got my health  
Memories and calluses, my hearing's probably next to go  
Sometimes I do a little handy work for extra dough  
But mostly this here is how I spend my time  
And I've perfected a technique I call the dry shine  
Some guys use lots of water on the shoe but then  
When it's out in the open air it's gone in ten minutes  
That whole approach to the job is dumb, in fact  
Dollars to donuts, that customer won't be coming back  
This is the most common mistake of the amateurs  
Going for big numbers to satisfy their managers  
Anyway, the dry shine, the first thing I mean to do  
And this part is very important, I clean the shoe  
The residue and old polish to keep the shoe from being ruined  
All you need to do is use a rag with some cleaning fluid  
If the shoe's all caked up with gunk you need to think  
The shoe can't breathe and that's what causes the feet to stink  
They took Carfoine off the market, I believe  
It was a few years ago cause that leather couldn't breathe  
Now once you've cleaned the shoe and it's dried  
Your base coat of polish can now be applied  
Then you brush, cause what that tends to do  
Is clean the shoe a little more and gets rid of the residue  
And then you do the second coat just like the first one  
You brush it, you rag it, and voila, your work is done  
And that's it, you treat each shoe like it's special  
Care about your work, and be a professional  
There's a right way to go about your job and a wrong one  
I find this way is much better in the long run  
It ain't about the dollar or trying to go fast  
Unless you take pride in what you're doing, it won't last  
Craftsmanship is a quality that some lack  
You got to give people a reason for them to come back

The world's a different place than what I was introduced to  
They don't wear shineable shoes like they used to  
Casual clothes in the office, what is this  
The villain in sneakers is killing my business