

# Sonny Boy Williamson I, Welfare Store Blues

Welfare Store Track #14 2:48

Sonny Boy Williamson I (John Lee)

(Walter Roland - 'Red Cross Blues')

John Lee Williamson - vocal and harmonica

with Joshua Altheimer - piano, Fred Williams - drums

Chicago May 17, 1940

Album: 'Sugar Mama'

The Essential Recordings of Sonny Boy Williamson

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(harmonica intro)

Now me an my baby we talked late last night  
An we talked for another hour  
She wanted me to go down to the welfare sto'  
And get a sack a-that welfare flour

But I told her, 'No'  
'Baby an I sho' don't wanna go'  
I said, 'I'll do anything in the world for you  
I don't wanna go down to that welfare sto'

Now, you need to go get you some real, white man  
You know, to sign yo' little note  
They give ya a pair of them king-toed shoes  
I want no a-them pleat-back, soldier coat

But I told 'er, 'No'  
'Baby an I sho' don't wanna go  
I say, 'I'll do anything in the world for ya  
'But I don't wanna go down to that welfare sto'

(harmonica, drums, guitar)

President Roosevelt said, on welfare people  
They gonna treat ev'ryone right  
Said, they give ya a can of them beans  
An a can or two of them old tripe

But I told 'er, 'No'  
'Baby, an I sho' don't wanna go  
I say, 'I'll do anything in the world for ya  
'But I don't wanna go down to that welfare sto', now

Well now, me an my baby we talked yesterday  
An we talked in my backyard  
She said, 'I'll take care-a you, Sonny Boy  
Just as long as these times stay hard'  
An I told her, 'Yeah, baby an I sho' won't have to go'

I said, 'If you do that for me  
I won't have to go down to that welfare sto'.