

# Stan Ridgway, Running With The Carnival

Oh, down by the river where the wildflower grow  
All the people comin' to a carnival show  
Got my little brother Bobby here, so come along  
Oh, we gotta get there early or the seats are all gone  
Hey, now, you can smell the sawdust up your nose for a mile  
There's a bearded lady and that man's a crocodile  
Slip inside the tent and see the giant rubber man  
Oh, I bet his mamma's proud of him, he's doin' what he can  
Doin' what he can.  
Oh, I wonder if they'd let me join up with 'em if I could  
Get down to the city, get off this hill for good  
Yeah, I'm tired of totin' water, feedin' chickens in a shack  
I'm runnin' away to the carnival, an' never comin' back  
Nope! Never comin' back.  
Now, the strong man got no hair, he can lift a heavy stone  
Monkey woman's screechin', in her nose there's a bone  
The cracker barrel's open and the cider's filled with flies  
Oh, take a seat down in front, 'cause the curtain's 'bout to rise

Yeah, wander past the fortune teller, readin' someone's hand  
What future does she see while we listen to the band?  
And I can hear the music now from that calliope  
Oh, when the carnival's in town there's always somethin' new to see  
Somethin' new to see...  
Oh, the people in the carnival, they all act just like kin  
And you can't be in the middle when you're sleepin' with a Siamese twin  
Oh, the dog-faced boy lifts his leg out in the pourin' rain  
When you're travellin' with the carnival, there really is no shame  
Nope, no shame.  
Down by the river where the wildflower grow  
All the folks are packin' up that carnival to go  
I guess I'll soon be leavin', then, but you can come with me  
And we all run to the carnival and see what we would be  
Repeat and fade:  
Run, run, runnin' with the carnival