

# Woody Guthrie, Talking Hard Work

While we are on the subject of hard work, I just wanted to tell you that I am a man who likes hard work  
I was born working and I worked my way up by hard work.  
I ain't ever got no where, but I got there by hard work.  
Work of the hardest kind.  
I been down and I been out  
I been disgusted I been busted and I couldn't be trusted.  
I worked my way up and I worked my way down  
I been drunk and I been sober.  
I been baptized and hyjacked.  
Worked my way in jail and I worked my way outta jail  
Woke up a lot of mornin's, didn't know where I was at.  
The hardest work I ever done was when I was tryin' to get myself a worried woman to help ease my  
I'm gonna tell ya just how much work I had to do to get this woman I was tellin' you about  
I shook hands with 97 of her kinfolk and her blood relatives and I done just the same with 86 people  
I kissed 73 babies and put dry pants on 34 of em' well as others  
Done this same thing well there are a lot of other things just like this.  
I held 125 wild horses and put saddles and bridles on more than that  
Harnessed some of the wildest and craziest teams in that whole country  
I rode 14 loco broncos to a stand still  
And I let 42 hound dogs lick me all over, 7 times I's bit by hungry dogs and I was chewed all to pieces  
I chopped and carried 314 arm loads of stove wood  
109 buckets of coal  
Carried a gallon of kerosene 18 miles over the mountains  
Got lost ' lost a good pair of shoes in a mudhole  
And I chopped and weeded 48 rows of short cotton  
13 acres of bad corn  
I cut the sticker weeds out of 11 back yards  
All on account of cuz I wanted to show her that I was a man and I liked to work  
I cleaned out 9 barn lofts  
Cranked 31 cars, all makes and models  
Pulled 3 cars out of mud holes, and 4 or 5 out of snow drifts  
I dug 5 cisterns of water for some of her friends  
Run all kinds of errands  
Played the fiddle for 9 church meetin's  
I Joined 11 separate denominations  
I joined up and signed up with 7 best trade unions I could find  
I paid my wages, um, a, dues 6 months in advance  
I waded 48 miles of swamps and 6 big rivers  
Walked across 2 ranges of mountains and crossed 3 deserts  
I got the fever, Sun stroke, Malaria, blue, moonstruck, skeeter bit, Poison Ivy and the 7-year itch and  
I was give up for less, lost and dead a couple of times  
Struck by lightning, struck by Congress, struck by friends and kinfolks well as by 3 cars on highway  
I been hit and run down run over and walked on knocked around.  
I'm just sittin' here now tryin' to study up what else I can do to show that women that I still ain't afraid