

# I Never Picked Cotton

Johnny Cash

I never picked cotton  
Like my mother did and my brother did  
And my sister did and my Daddy died young  
Workin' in a coal mine When I was just a baby too little for the cotton sack  
I played in the dirt while the others worked  
'Til they couldn't straighten up their backs  
And I made myself a promise when I was old enough to run  
That I'd never stay a single day In that Oklahoma sun And I never picked cotton  
Like my mother did and my brother did  
And my sister did and my Daddy died young  
Workin' in a coal mine Folks said that I grew up early and the farm couldn't hold me then  
So I stole ten bucks and a pickup truck and I never went back again  
Then it was fast cars and whiskey, long legged girls and fun  
I had everything that money could bring and I took it all with a gun And I never picked cotton  
Like my mother did and my brother did  
And my sister did and my Daddy died young  
Workin' in a coal mine It was Saturday night in Memphis when a redneck grabbed my shirt  
And he said go back to your cotton sack, I left him lying in the dirt  
And they'll take me in the morning to the gallows just outside  
And in the time I've got there ain't a hell of a lot  
I can look back on with pride But I never picked cotton  
Like my mother did and my brother did  
And my sister did and my Daddy died young  
Workin' in a coal mine I never picked cotton  
Like my mother did and my brother did  
And my sister did and my Daddy died young  
Workin' in a coal mine

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