

# Soul of a Convict

## Porter Wagoner

(Will he take the soul of a convict could I be one of those he choosed)  
I was taught the Bible from childhood at my mother's knee I learned to pray  
I was taught of God and all his goodness and the devil and his evil ways  
There's good in the bad and bad in the good and there's none that's free from sin  
But there's some questions I've wondered about  
What happens to the men who die in the pen  
Just imagine yourself the judge God Almighty as you gaze over all these men  
When death takes its toll what becomes of the soul of the men who die in the pen  
Do you think of God that's true and just could look from his heavenly throne  
And be pleased to see men placed in chains and stripes  
And tucked from their loved ones at home  
Worked until they're completely axhuasted and your soul cries out in vain  
Fed like a hog and treated like a dog and at night to the bed you're chained  
Worked from sunup to sundown through all kinds of weather  
And if you don't do the things just right you get introduced to the leather  
Now you see it's not the pain I mind so much as I'm stretched out on the floor  
It's just the thought that I can't do my part that's what breaks my heart  
You see I'm just not man enough anymore  
Oh there are a lotta other things I could tell you that you'd marvel at and say  
Why I didn't know in those modern times they treated men that way but they do  
That's why I ask you do you think that God could turn with a sneer and frown  
At the men who die in the pen do you think he'll turn us down  
I believe there's a heaven and a hell and in God I put my trust  
That's why I'm askin' these questions I believe he's true and just  
And I just imagine he'll tell me as we meet at the golden stairs  
Hell's not just meant for some of the men who die in the pen  
But for some who have mistreated them there  
You see we're payin' for the mistakes we made in our sins  
As we've had our troubles in life  
Because we're the underdogs of humanity and surely God won't make us pay twice  
I believe on that Day of Judgement he'll have this convict called in  
And he'll say it's true hell's not for you you had your hell in the pen

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