

# The Ballad of Mr. Jenkins

Craig Morgan

With skin as tough as a burlap sack  
He had his second heart attack  
Last summer but hes still goinTheres a melancholy in his eyes  
For all of you who care enough  
To wonder why, well, let me tell youIt all started back in 1957  
When ole Walt Disney took him by surprise  
Thats the day Old Yeller diedWell, that twelve year old became a man  
Eleven years too soon in Vietnam  
With his best friend TommyThey were tough as nails and southern born  
And awfully proud to wear that uniform  
Then things got scaryOn April 4th, Tommy left for Heaven  
The same year the world was taken by surprise  
Thats the day Martin Luther diedSo before you judge him you need to know  
Theres more to that old man than what you  
See there on that barstool with a Bourbon in his handYou heard about his younger years  
But dont leave now theres more to hear  
That might explain the pain in that old manHow quick America forgot  
About the only war theyd lost  
And life goes on, thats what they tell yaNo ticker tape no reason why  
Might have never seen the end of that chapter  
Of his life, if he hadnt met BettyThey got married in December 1980  
No doubt it was the best day of his life  
Two days before John Lennon diedSo before you judge him you need to know  
Theres more to that old man than what you  
See there on that barstool with a bourbon in his handNow weve covered chapter two  
I can almost see a change in you  
Theres still a lot of life in that old manHe hadnt had a drink in at least a year  
To tell the truth Im shocked hes here  
But as long as he wants em, Im gonna pour emBefore you came in I asked him why  
He just raised his fragile head and wiped his eyes  
And then he told meIve seen so much in my life Ive never questioned  
This time the good Lord took me by surprise  
Yesterday my Betty diedWith skin as tough as a burlap sack  
He had his second heart attack  
Last summer but hes still goin

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