

See the Elephant

James McMurtry

I saw Pete and Johnny too
Dressed up in their Sunday suits
Getting themselves all up to go
Down to Richmond to the traveling show
I fixed the gate like you told me to
Done my chores like I always do
And I wont tell mama you let me go
Down to Richmond to the traveling showPlease Papa can I go
Down to Richmond to the traveling show
Please Papa dont you say I cant
I just want to see the elephantIll borrow the truck from uncle Phil
You know I can drive it well
He wont need it now that the hays all in
Just let me go and see the elephantSister she cant go with me
This is not for her to see
Little brother youll get your chance
To go down and see the elephantLittle brother youll get your chance
To go down and see the elephantTheyre looking for a few good men
Could be war by summers end
Sure would hate it if I went
And never got to see the elephantI saw Pete and Johnny too
Dressed up in their Navy Blues
Gettin themselves all up to go
Down to Richmond to the traveling show

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