

# Old Dogs, Children And Watermelon Wine

Tom T. Hall

"How old do you think I am?" he said.  
I said, well, I didn't know.  
He said, "I turned 65 about 11 months ago."

I was sittin' in miami pourin' blended whiskey down  
When this old gray black gentleman was cleanin' up the lounge

There wasn't anyone around 'cept this old man and me  
The guy who ran the bar was watchin' "ironsides" on tv  
Uninvited, he sat down and opened up his mind  
On old dogs and children and watermelon wine

"Ever had a drink of watermelon wine?" he asked  
He told me all about it, though I didn't answer back  
"Ain't but three things in this world that's worth a solitary dime,  
But old dogs and children and watermelon wine."

He said, "women think about they-selves, when menfolk ain't around.  
And friends are hard to find when they discover that you're down."  
He said, "I tried it all when I was young and in my natural prime;  
Now it's old dogs and children and watermelon wine."

"Old dogs care about you even when you make mistakes;  
God bless little children while they're still too young to hate."  
When he moved away I found my pen and copied down that line  
'Bout old dogs and children and watermelon wine.

I had to catch a plane up to atlanta that next day  
As I left for my room I saw him pickin' up my change  
That night I dreamed in peaceful sleep of shady summertime  
Of old dogs and children and watermelon wine.

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