

# The Whirl and the Suck

## Johnny Cash

It took a mighty good man with salty hands  
And a mighty long raft to keep the fore before the act  
You take ten good men and guts and luck  
And you might navigate the whirl and the suckWell, the Tennessee River changed its mind  
At Chattanooga she oughta unwind  
She could a run right on the Georgia Sea  
But she cut right back through TennesseeWell, the settlers come by raft  
And boat bringin' everything that could stay a float  
But like a loco horse that'll twist and buck  
They hardly ever made it through the whirl and the suckIt took a mighty good man with salty hands  
And a mighty long raft to keep the fore before the act  
You take ten good men and guts and luck  
And you might navigate the whirl and the suckWhen General Washington was in his knicker bocks  
The Cherokee Indians through the Chattanooga Rocks  
And the Chickamagua tribe and the Nickajack  
They kept the watch where the river cut back  
And if a raft or a boat ever rode the bend  
The Indians got 'em cause they had 'em hemmed inIt took a mighty good man with salty hands  
And a mighty long raft to keep the fore before the act  
You take ten good men and guts and luck  
And you might navigate the whirl and the suck

Songwriters

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