

# Johnny Chrome

## Dave Penny

It was a lovely day in June up until it was nearly ruined  
I was on my pedal bike and headed back for home  
I heard a rumble, turned to see  
A great big truck come down at me  
And that encounter was the first time I met Johnny Chrome

I calls him Johnny Chrome because he loves the stuff and that's what he does  
His pickup truck is lined with chrome from top down to the rims  
Shiny handles, hood protectors  
Running boards and both deflectors  
Shiny chrome plate on the mirror and the fender trim

Two big smokestacks in the pan just like the ones in Come By Chance  
Set of great big knobby tires as wide as they were round  
And stickers covered the sides and back  
And windows tinted solid black  
And extra high suspension put her six feet off the ground

Around the corner of Barters Hill he turned and put me face to grill  
He saw me too, I know he did, but still he didn't swerve  
I spit and sputtered and cursed and hissed  
Took off and said "enough of this"  
And rode my bike in front of him just to get on his nerves

I stood and pedaled up on my hog and down we went across the bog  
Right out to Petty Harbor then back to the Overpass  
We sped right on out through the Goulds  
And puffed along up to Fermeuse  
And got a chance to catch my breath when he ran out of gas

I was not nervous in the least about his big Alberta beast  
With all the chrome accessories, it weighed near seven tons  
The engine's very large of course  
The power of four hundred horse  
But he just had six lousy gears and I got twenty-one

As we raced through Newfoundland my two poor legs were rubber bands  
Heart was pounding wildly like a teenage boy in love  
My two feet on the pedal stem  
Spinned at ninety RPM

Up on my mountain bike out on the Tour de Terra Nov'

Teary-eyed, my vision was blurred when we got out to Bay de Verde  
But I could hear him catching up and he wasn't very far  
And then I saw to my right side  
A path about a metre wide  
I cut in, it was just enough to clear my handlebars

As Johnny quickly cut the wheel, his stickers all began to peel  
A hubcap rolled on down the road and the moose rack fell apart  
He cracked the strut and he bent the rod  
The fancy truck came all abroad  
And wobbled off the road just like a rusty shopping cart

The tire rod bent, he couldn't steer, cracked off the big sideview mirrors  
Turned around and brought up in a ditch 'bout eight feet down  
The truck, so mighty and enormous  
Tangled up now, all arse foremost  
As I got back on me bike and rode it back to town

He pulled it out eventually and put it up on Kijiji  
Sold it off reluctantly and he bawled a bucketful  
He proudly brought her from Fort Mac  
And now she's in a yard for scrap  
And Johnny beats around now on a brand-new bicycle

Lyrics Submitted by ZC

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