Cisco Clifton's Fillin' Station

Johnny Cash

Cisco Clifton had a fillin' station
About a mile and a half from town
Most cars passed unless they were out of gas
So Cisco was always aroundRegular gas was all that it sold
Except tobacco matches and oil
Other than that he fixed lots of flats
Keepin' Cisco rough hands soiledHe'd wipe the gas and check the air
In a hundred times a day
He patiently gave directions
On how to get to the state highwayUsually he'd give 'em water
Or a tyre or two some air
And once a big black Cadillac
Spent seven dollars thereHe'd give anybody anything they'd ask
And lend anything he had
His tools are tyres bumper jacks or wire
To the good ones or the badIn wintertime there was a depot stove
And a table for a checker game
And every mornin' at sunup
The same checker players cameSo Cisco Clifton's fillin' station
Was always in the red
Personal loans were personally gone
But never a word was saidOne mornin' at eight, them checker players
Heard a big bulldozer roar like a freight
And Cisco said I hope my kids stay fed
When they build that InterstateHe'd managed to pay for property
Where his little fillin' station sat
And friends still came for checker game
So Cisco settled for thatHe wouldn't say so but Cisco knew
That the Interstate was too much to fight
But to keep his will and to pay his bills
He did odd jobs at nightHe still opened up at sunrise
And the checker game went on
The cars flew past on highest gas
And the neighbors had sold out and goneIf a car ever did go by he was lost
And if they stopped they were treated the same
So at Cisco Clifton's fillin' station
There's a howdy and a checker game

Songwriters

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