Lost John

Woody Guthrie

Gonna tell you the story
About old Lost John
Lost John was a boy that got loose
From a chain gang down in LouisianaAbout sixteen bloodhound, took in after him
Sheriffs, deputies

And everybody else in the county

Chasin him all across the swampLost John outrun the bloodhounds there

All night long, it was long towards mornin

He looked up to the tree there

And seen the lights from a houseHe didnt know whether the people inside

Was friends or were enemies

So he wanted to go up to the house

So, and asked if he could stay there

To get away from the bloodhoundsHe was afraid if he did go up there

That the people might set their dogs

Barking at him or shoot him down

With a Winchester riffleThis is the story about Lost JohnOld Lost John aint lost no more

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