

# Boy Named Sue

## Johnny Cash

Well my daddy left  
home when I was  
three and he didn't  
leave much for Ma  
and me just this old guitar  
and a empty bottle of booze.

Now I don't blame him cuz  
he run and hide but the meanest  
thing that he ever did was  
before he left he went and  
named me Sue.

Well he must of thought that it was quite  
a joke and t got a lot of laughs from lots  
from lots of folks it seems i had to fight my whole life  
through.

Some gal would giggle and I'd get red  
some guy would laugh and I'd bust his head I'd tell ya  
life ain't easy for a boy named sue.

Well I grew up quick and i grew up mean  
my fist got hard and my whits got keen  
romed from town to town to hide  
my shame well i made me a vow  
to the moon and stars I'd search  
the honky tonks and bars  
and kill that man that give me that awful  
name.

Well it was Gattlingburg in mid  
July I had just hit town and my throat  
was dry I thought I'd stop and  
have myself a brew.

At a old saloon on the street of  
mud there at a table dealin stud  
sat the dirty mangy dog that

named me sue.

Well I knew that snake was my own sweet dad  
from a worn out picture that my  
mother had and I knew that scar  
on his cheek and his evil eye he  
was big and thin and gray and old  
and i looked at him and my blood ran cold  
and i said "MY NAME IS SUE HOW DO YOU DO  
NOW YOU GONNA DIE"

Ya thats what i told

Well I hit him hard right between the eyes and  
he went down but to my suprise  
come up with a knife and cut off a piece of my ear.

Well i busted a chair right across his  
teeth and we crashed through  
the wall and into the street kicking  
and a gougeing in the mud and the  
blood and the beer.

I tell ya i fought tougher men but I  
really can't remember when  
he kicked like a mule and he  
bit like a crocodile.

I heard him laugh then i heard  
him cuss and he went for his gun  
and i pulled mine first he stood there  
looking at me and i saw him smile

And he said son this world is rough  
and if a mans gonna make it hes gotta be tough  
and i knew i wouldn't be there to help you along.

So I gave you that named and I  
said goodbye I knew you would  
have to get tough or die and  
its that name that helped to make  
you strong.

Ya

He said now you just fought one hell

of a fight and I know you hate me  
and you got the right to kill me now and I  
wouldn't blame you if you do.

But you oughta thank me before i die for the  
gravel in your guts and the spit in your  
eye cuz I'm the son of a bitch that named you sue.

Ya

What did I do what could I do  
I got all choked up and I threw  
down my gun called him a  
Pa and he called me a son  
and I come away with a different  
point of view.

And I think about him now and then every  
time i try and every time I win.

And if I ever have a son i think I gonna  
name him Bill or Gorge any dame thing but  
Sue I still hate that name

---

Lyrics submitted by Robert.

Lyrics provided by

<https://damnllyrics.com/>