1. Well, they gave him his orders at Monroe, Virginia,
   Saying, "Steve, you're way behind time,
   This ain't the 38, it's the Old 97,
   Got to get her into Spencer on time."

   *chorus:* It's a mighty rough road from Lynchburg down to Danville,
   On a line on a three-mile grade,
   It was down that line that he lost his air brakes,
   You can see what a jump he made.

2. Steve Broady said to his black greasy fireman,
   "Shovel on a little more coal,
   And when we cross that White Oak Mountain,
   Just watch Old 97 roll".

   *chorus:

3. He was coming down the line making 90 miles an hour,
   When the whistle broke into scream,
   They found him in that wreck with his hand on the throttle,
   Scalded to death by the steam.

   *chorus:

4. Come on now, all you ladies,
   From this time on and learn,
   Never speak harsh words to your true loving husband,
   He may leave you and never return.

   *chorus: