

ELMO JAMES

Intro [C] Single uke over spoken words Nick sings - all in on chorus

This is a sad but true story about Elmo James

Brothers and sisters lend me your ears

[C] Born and raised in the backwoods, barefoot on a farm

The hammer of life hit heavy, you looked up and your Pa was gone

The [F] floors that your Mama scrubbed, each day at the big farm house

Didn't [C] earn her enough money, to feed nine hungry mouths

So you [G] did your best to help your Mama, no [F] time for books and school

But the [C] outside world looked upon you, as an uneducated fool

CHORUS:

[C] Elmo James, it don't [G] matter from where you came

Life goes [F] on the same, who's to [C] blame, Oh Elmo James

Elmo James, just [G] living your life in shame

But the [F] world don't change because of [C] pain, Oh poor Elmo James

You [C] left your home for the city, with dreams of fortune and wealth

You got locked down in the ghetto, no chance to help yourself

So you [F] turned to false stimulation, to forget your needs and wants

And the [C] only job that you can afford, is a job nobody else wants

Your [G] heart is filled with self- pity; you [F] feel that you're all alone

You've got a [C] wife, two kids and a broken-down shack

But you ought to go back home

CHORUS:

You [C] met a man and you robbed him, to get food for your family

The judge didn't understand why, now you're in penitentiary

The [F] grey walls that surround you, significance of your life

[C] Worrying about some no-good guy, running off with your wife

[G] You'll be out in a year or two, please [F] Elmo when you do

[C] Make your children go to school, so they won't wind up like you

CHORUS then repeat poor Elmo James x3