Johnny Each Sides

CARL

(taking guitar off)

I'm needing to visit the little shack out back, if you know what I mean. Brother Jay, you an' Fluke thirsty for anythin'?

BROTHER JAY

(pulls out flask)

Naw, we're bood.

JOHNNY

I need one, Carl

CÀRL

Come on John.

JERRY LEE

Get me a root beer, Carl.

(CARL stares at him for a second, then bursts

out laughing)

You wanna' Twinkie to go with that, hot shot?

(turns to exit)

JERRY LEE

No, I'd Nike a moon pie.

#12A SCENE TRANSITION (UNDERSCORE)

(CARL glances at JERRY LEE and walks off towards the street followed by JOHNNY... during musical interlude, JOHNNY and CARL walk "outside"--down into spotlight...shortly thereafter, DYANNE whispers into ELVIS's ear, kisses him on the cheek and follows CARL and JOHNNY)

START

CARL

John.

JOHNNY

Yeah.

CARL

You ain't told Mistuh Phillips you're quittin' Sun, have you?

JOHNNY

Well, it jus' never seemed like the right time.

CARL

Well, he's fixin' to force the issue. He's gonna hand you the contract renewal in front of Elvis and ever'one.

JOHNNY

(frustrated)

Oh man, I shoulda known somethin' like that was comin'.

CARL

Then why'd the hell you show up here?

JOHNNY

Mr. Phillips called and said Elvis was stopping by. Told me to get my butt over here.

CARL

And you stepped right in it.

DYANNE

(crossing down to them)

I'm sorry, fellas. I didn't realize you were in the middle of something...

CARL

It's okay. Jus' a little business.

JOHNNY

Aw hell, stick around. Smoke 'em if you got 'em, darlin'.

DYANNE

It is so much fun in there. Is it always like this?

(JOHNNY and CARL look at each other...DYANNE looks at them...pregnant pause)

CARL

It used to be.

JOHNNY

(looks at CARL)

Look, if you really wanna know, there's a little a-tomic bomb fixin' to explode. Mistuh Phillips wants me to sign a contract extension, and what he don't know is I've awready signed an

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

agreement to go with Columbia Records in Nashville the day my contract's up here.

DYANNE

I see. You know, it's so strange that you want nothing more than to leave Sun and Elvis wants nothing more than to come back.

CARL

Yeah, but he AIN'T comin' back. There's just so far you can go on Sun Records. It's a two-person operation f'r God's sakes.

JOHNNY

And let's just say that Sun don't pay at the top end. And their distribution!

(shakes his head)

Man, if they really wanna stop the spread of Communism, they oughta let Sun distribute it.

CARL

And a blind man can see Mistuh Phillips is 'bout to throw ever'thing behind that crazy new kid.

DYANNE

He'll be a star or die trying.

CARL

Maybe, but where does that leave us?

JOHNNY

I don't wanna take nuthin' away from Mistuh Phillips. He saw somethin' in me couldn't no one else have seen. Hell, wouldn't no one else have given me the time a'day. But...you can take this for what it's worth. I made a covenant with God...if he made me a star I would praise him the onliest way I know how—with a gospel record. Mr. Phillips won't record it. Says the kids won't buy it. Well, Columbia thinks they will. So...it's just time to be movin' on.

STOP

CARL

John's right. Stay here, and 'fore you know it, we'll be back playin' to the drunks in them damn ol' honky tonks. And drunks don't buy records...

JOHNNY

They just make 'em.

I WALK THE LINE

15

PHILLIPS: Jerry Lee, y'know he wrote this for his wife.

Maybe you oughta pick one of your wives and write me a hit. C'mon, John.

Moderate Train Beat (d=c.96)









