

Big Bad John
Johnny Cash

G **F**
Every moning at the mine you could see him arrive
G **F**
He stood six foot six and weighed 245
G **F**
Kinda broad at the shoulder and narrow at the hip
G **F** **G**
And everybody knew you didn t give no lip to Big John.
Em **C** **D** **G**
Big John, Big Jaw----won, Big Bad John.
Nobody seemed to know where John called home
He just drifted into town and stayed all alone
Didn t say much a-kinda quiet and shy
And if you spoke at all you just said high to Big John
Somebody said he came down from New Orleans
Where he got in a fight over a Cajun Queen
And a crashing blow from a huge right hand
Sent a Louisiana fellow to the Promised Land Big John

(Chorus)

Ab **F#**
Then came one day at the bottom of the mine
Ab **F#**
When a timber cracked and the men started crying
Ab **F#**
Miners were paraying and their hearts beat fast
Ab **F#** **Ab**
And everybody thought they d breathed their last cept John
Ab **F#**
Through the dust and the smoke of this man made Hell
Ab **F#**
Walked a giant of a man that the miners knew well
Ab **F#**
Grabbed a sagging timber and gave out with a groan
Ab **F#** **Ab**
And like a giant oak tree just stood there alone Big John
Fm **Db** **Eb** **Ab**
Big John, Big Jaw----won, Big Bad John
A **G**
With all of his strength he gave a mighty shove
A **G**
Then a miner yelled out There s a light up above
A **G**
And 20 men scrambled from w would be grave
A **G** **A**
Now there s only one left down there to save Big John

A **G**
 With jacks and timbers they started back down
A **G**
 Then came that rumble way down in the ground
A **G**
 And smoke and gas belched from outta that mine
A **G** **A**
 Everybody knew it was the end of the line for Big John
F#m **D** **E** **A**
 Big John, Big Jaw----won, Big Bad John.
 Return to G

Now they never re-opened that worthless pit
 They just placed a marble stand in front of it
 These few lines are written on that stand
 At the bottom of this mine, lies one Helluva man.--BIG JOHN .

(Chorus)