Just Lookin’ for a Home

The author of The Boll Weevil Song is unknown. Among others, the song has been performed and recorded by the poet Carl Sandburg and blues singers Blind Lemon Jefferson in the 1920s and Brook Benton in the 1960s. The Brook Benton recording held the number two slot on the charts for two weeks in 1961.

The Boll Weevil is a mean little bug
Came from Mexico, they say.
Came all the way to Texas,
Just looking for a place to stay.
Just looking for a home, yes, looking for a home.

The first time I saw little Weevil
He was on the Western Plain.
Next time I saw the Weevil
He was riding a Memphis train.
He was looking for a home, just looking for a home.

When the Farmer saw those Boll Weevils
they were in his rocking chair.
The next time they were in his corn field
and they had all their family there
Just fixing up a home, yes, fixing up a home.

The Boll Weevil say to the Farmer
“You can ride in that Ford machine,
But when I get through with your cotton
You can’t buy gasoline.
You won’t have no home, won’t have no home.”

Oh, the Boll Weevil said to the Doctor,
“Better pour out all your pills.
When I get through with the Farmer
He can’t pay no doctor’s bills.
He’ll have no home, he’ll have no home.”

The Farmer say to the Woman,
“What do you think of that?
Those devilish Boll Weevils
have been eating my Stetson hat.
It’s full of holes, it’s full of holes.

The Merchant said to the Farmer,
“Well what do think of that?
If you get rid of the Weevil
I’ll give you a brand new Stetson hat.”
He’s looking for a home, just looking for a home.

*An insect poison containing arsenic

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