Old Mister Johnson had troubles of his own. He had a yellow cat who wouldn't leave its home;
He tried and he tried to give the cat a-way, he gave it to a man who was goin' far a-way.

But the cat came back the very next day,

The cat came back, they thought he was a goner
But the cat came back, he just couldn't stay a-way.

He gave it to a little boy with a dollar note. He told him for to take it up the river in a boat;
He tied a rope a-round its neck, it must have weighed a pound
Now they drag the river for a little boy that's drowned.

The man around the corner swore he'd kill the cat on sight,
He loaded up his shotgun with nails and dyna-mite;
He waited and he waited for the cat to come a-round,
Ninety seven pieces of the man is all they found.

The atom bomb fell just the other day. The H-Bomb fell in the very same way;
Russia went, England went, and then the U.S.A.
The human race was finished with-out a chance to pray.

But the cat came back the very next day,
The cat came back, they thought he was a goner
But the cat came back, he just couldn't stay a-way.
Stay a-way, stay a-way, stay a-way