

# The Wreck of the Old Ninety-Seven

## Traditional

Chorus			
A	<b>123</b> x02220	D	<b>132</b> xx0232
		E	<b>231</b> 022100

Strum Pattern					
<b>B</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>U</b>
1	+	2	+	3	+
				4	+

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||A---|---|D---|---|
|A---|---|E---|---||
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**A (2)** **D (2)**  
Well, they gave him his orders at Monroe, Virginia.

**A (2)** **E (2)**  
Sayin', Steve, you're way behind time.

**A (2)** **D (2)**  
This is not Thirty-Eight, this is old Ninety-Seven.

**A** **E** **A (2)**  
You must put her into Spencer on time.

**A (2)** **D (2)**  
He turned around and said to his big, burly fireman,

**A (2)** **E (2)**  
Shovel on a little more coal.

**A (2)** **D (2)**  
And when we cross that White Oak Mountain,

**A** **E** **A (2)**  
You can watch old Ninety-Seven roll.

**A (2)** **D (2)**  
But it's a mighty rough road from Lynchburg to Danville

**A (2)** **E (2)**  
On a line with a three mile grade

**A (2)** **D (2)**  
It was on that grade that he lost his air brakes

**A** **E** **A (2)**  
You should have seen the jump that he made

**A (2)** **D (2)**

He was goin' down the mountain makin' ninety miles an hour,

**A (2)** **E (2)**

When his whistle broke into a scream.

**A (2)** **D (2)**

He was found in the wreck with his hand on the throttle,

**A** **E** **A (2)**

Scalded to death by the steam.

**A (2)** **D (2)**

A telegram came into Washington Station,

**A (2)** **E (2)**

And this is how it read

**A (2)** **D (2)**

That brave engineer that run old Ninety-Seven

**A** **E** **A (2)**

Is lyin' in Danville dead.

**A (2)** **D (2)**

Well, now, all you ladies, you better take the warnin'

**A (2)** **E (2)**

From this time on and learn.

**A (2)** **D (2)**

Never speak hard words to your true lovin' husband.

**A** **E** **A (2)**

He may leave you and never return.