

Will Play For Food

(The Ballad of New Mexico Joe)

by joshua kaplan 07-23-2012

since he was a little baby
crawlin through new mexico sand
only one thing he really wanted
was the sound of a rock n roll band

disdained his pacifier
refrained from his mamas food
only thing kept him quiet
was the sound of Poorboy's Kalamazoo* ...and Willy's kazoo

as a kid he skated through schoolin
played the fool and fooled 'em all
an all the while the learned orated
he wished for rick(enbacker)s, mo' john an les(s) paul
then one day his momma gifted him
ironically on Independence Day
six steel strings across a wood box
an she said, "son, go on out an play"

so he did...ain't been back since

see, some folks they play for money

others like the altitude

well, i know this might sound funny but...

that joe, he plays for food

(don't believe me? well, here he comes now... he'll tell you hisself)

pleased to meet ya, my name's Joe

me an this ol' gal here r' from New Mexico

we just gonna sit here an play a while

and hopefully get to see you smile

see, i don't spit fire n i can't juggle two

an i only dance when my heart tells me to

but i can play you a song for your smile's sake

an i wouldn't say no to those tastykakes

butterscotch krimpets... my favorite

i don't need a dj wit a set a Beats

but i'd sure take a taste of your sticky sweets

an i don't care for no linty coin

but i'd sure sink my teeth in your tenderloin

(and savor it)

...will play for food

* this song pays brief homage to John Fogerty's "Down On The Corner." Poorboy's Kalamazoo refers to one bandmember playing his guitar, made in Kalamazoo.