

MDQ

Carl Sides

Start

CARL

Mistuh Phillips. Uhh...Me an' the boys talked it over, and we've signed to go to Columbia as well when our deal is up here.

(silence)

Mistuh Phillips. I been high, low, and ever'place in-between this year. But when "Blue Suede Shoes" was Number One, an' I was driving to New York City to sing "my" song on the Perry Como television show--and we had that bad car wreck...a week later I'm layin' in bed in the hospital watchin' the Ed Sullivan Show...watchin' Elvis Presley sing MY SONG on the Ed Sullivan Show. You can't believe how that feels! That shoulda been MY break.

ELVIS

Carl, you know the Colonel was the one...

CARL

(to ELVIS)

You got the whole world pitchin' songs at ya'--you coulda left "Blue Suede Shoes" alone. Since you done the song on TV ever'one thinks it's your song. I got dee-jays tellin' me I'm coverin' Elvis. Naw, it's the other way around, ain't it.

(to PHILLIPS)

And then there come a time and I'm standin' out there, and by God, I hear Sam Phillips on the phone to the pressin' plant tellin' them to take my records off the presses and put Johnny Cash on.

PHILLIPS

Carl, that was just for a day or two. We had to get them records in the stores. We had ads runnin' out west...

CARL

You give up on me Mistuh Phillips. You know you did.

(this is a body blow to PHILLIPS)

Well, it don't matter what's bin did and what's bin hid...like you talking to RCA, huh? The upshot is that Columbia offered me a deal. Promised to get behind my records. Damn near guaranteed me another hit.

(PHILLIPS stares at CARL...looks slowly around the room...turns and walks, exiting toward sound booth)

Stop