

Yes, some of the snakes that Rowdy saw
 Hummed round in the air
 With their eyeballs aglare
 And their whiskers aflare;
And they hissed their approval of Rowdy's despair!

And some of the snakes that Rowdy saw
 Had talons like bats,
 And looked like a cross between buzzards and rats!
They crawled from his boots, and they sprawled on the floor;
They sat on the mantel, and perched on the door,
And grinned all the fiercer the louder he swore!

 Out, out of his boots
 Came the damnable brutes—
These murderous snakes that Rowdy saw!
 Strange cries they uttered,
 And poison they sputtered
 As they crawled or they fluttered.
 This way and that
 Their venom they spat,
Till Rowdy had doubts as to where he was at.

They twined round his legs, and encircled his waist;
His arms and his neck and his breast they embraced;
They hissed in his ears, and they spat in his eyes,
And with their foul breaths interrupted his cries.

 Blue serpents and green,
 Red, yellow, and black,
 Of as hideous mien
 As ever was seen,
Girt him round, fore and back,
 And higgling
 And wiggling,
With their slimy and grubby preponderance they bore
Rowdy down to the floor. He remembers no more.

The sequel is this: The snakes that he saw
 Were such hideous snakes, were such torturesome things,
 With their poison-tipped fangs and their devil-claw wings,