

An Ode to Friction

By Stormy Weathers

Friction, oh friction. It's a force we love to hate.

We use bushing and bearings, and we also lubricate.

We love to fight old friction with everything it takes,

But we thank the Lord for friction whenever we hit the brakes.

You know about that old friction; it can make things mighty hot.

Just rub two sticks together, and see just what you've got.

Because friction transforms energy, it turns everything to heat.

So, if you want to build a fire, friction's pretty neat.

Yes, we love to hate old friction. We say it isn't very nice.

But we wonder where the friction went whenever we walk on ice.

Friction, oh friction. It opposes everything I do,

With an opposite force to the original force at the normal force times μ .

You know, friction comes in flavors, static and dynamic too.

Static is the stronger one, but once things slide, it's through.

Then dynamic friction is the one in play, with a smaller value for μ .

So pump your brakes when you drive on ice, it's the best that you can do.

So I thank the stars for friction. It keeps things where they're placed.

It lets us move around the town without making too much haste.

Because friction lets us start and stop, and turn the corners too.

I'm glad that we have friction. It's the force that's N times μ .