

The Train is Off the Track

Informant/Performer:
Mrs. Esco Kilgore
Norton, VA, 1939

Source:
Library of Congress AFS 2833 A1
Collected by Herbert Halpert

♩ = 92

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the song, the second and third staves contain the second line, and the fourth staff contains the third line. The lyrics are: 'Oh, the train's off the track, And I can't get it back', 'And I can't get a let - ter to my home', 'To my home, to my home,', 'And I can't get a let - ter to my home.'

Oh, the train's off the track, And I can't get it back

And I can't get a let - ter to my home

To my home, to my home,

And I can't get a let - ter to my home.

Transcribed by Peggy Struck

2. If you say so
I'll railroad no more,
I'll sidetrack my train and go home,
And go home, and go home,
I'll sidetrack my train and go home.
3. If you like-a me
Like I like you,
We'll both like-a like the same.
4. Come on my love
This very day
I'd like for to change your name,
Your name, your name,
Oh, I'd like for to change your name.

Background Information

When Mrs. Kilgore sang "The Train Is Off the Track" for collector Halpert she identified it only as a "silly little song." Her fragment is a delightful member of the family "Reuben's Train."