

This Train

Informant/Performer:
Walter McDonald, "Tight-Eye"
Parchman, MS, 1933

Source:
John A. and Alan Lomax
American Ballads and Folk Songs
New York: Macmillan, 1934

The musical notation is written on four staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first three staves end with a line indicating the melody continues. The fourth staff includes a triplet of eighth notes and a final measure with a whole note, followed by the instruction '(Imitation of a train whistle)'.

This train is bound for glo - ry, this train, _____

This train is bound for glo - ry, this train, _____

This train is bound for glo - ry, If you ride it you must be ho - ly, this train. ____

(last time) 3
Waa _____
(Imitation of a train whistle)

2. This train don't pull no extras
Don't pull nothin' but the Midnight Special.
3. This train don't pull no sleepers.
Don't pull nothin' but righteous peoples.
4. This train don't pull no jokers,
Neither don't pull no cigar smokers.
5. This train is bound for glory
If you ride it, you must be holy.