

Ridin'on the City of New Orleans
Illinois Central Monday morning rail
Fifteen cars and fifteen restless riders
Three conductors and twenty-five sacks of
mail

All along the southbound odyssey
The train pulls out at Kankakee
Rolls along past houses, farms and fields
Passin' trains that have no names
Freight yards full of old black men
And the graveyards of the rusted
automobiles

(Chorus)

Good morning America how are you?

Don't you know me I'm your native son
I'm the train they call the City of New
Orleans

I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done

Dealin' card games with the old men in the club car

Penny a point ain't no one keepin' score
Pass the paper bag that holds the bottle
Feel the wheels rumblin' 'neath the floor
And the sons of pullman porters
And the sons of engineers
Ride their father's magic carpets made of
steel

Mothers with their babes asleep Are rockin' to the gentle beat And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel

(Chorus)

Good morning America how are you?

Don't you know me I'm your native son
I'm the train they call the City of New
Orleans

I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done

Nighttime on the City of New Orleans
Changing cars in Memphis, Tennessee
Half way home, we'll be there by morning
Through the Mississipi darkness
Rolling down to the sea
And all the towns and people seem
To fade into a bad dream
And the steel rails still ain't heard the news
The conductor sings his song again
The passengers will please refrain
This train's got the disappearing railroad
blues

Good morning America how are you?

Don't you know me I'm your native son
I'm the train they call the City of New
Orleans

I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done (\times 2)