

## **Hank Snow**

# **"City Of New Orleans"**

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Riding 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 of Kankakee  
And moves along past houses farms and fields  
Passing trains that have no name  
And freighyards full of old black men  
And the graveyards full of rusted automobiles.

Good morning America how are ya  
Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son  
I'm a train they call the City of New Orleans  
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.

Dealing card games with an old man on the club car  
Many a point and no one keeping score  
Pass that paper bag that holds the bottle  
Feel the wheels a rumbling neath the floor.

And the sons of poor men porters and the sons of  
engineers  
Ride their father's magic carpet made of steel  
Mothers with their babes asleep rocking to that gentle  
beat  
And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel.

Good morning America how are ya  
Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son  
I'm a train they call the City of New Orleans  
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.

Night time on the City of New Orleans  
Changing cars in Memphis Tennessee  
Half way home and we'll get there by morning  
Through the Mississippi darkness rolling down to the  
sea.

But 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 ya  
Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son  
I'm a train they call the City of New Orleans  
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done...

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