

Joan Baez "Engine 143"

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Engine 143

Along came the FFV the swiftest on the line
Running o'er the C&O road just twenty minutes behind
Running into Sou'ville headquarters on the line
Receiving there strict orders from a station just behind

Georgie's mother came to him with a bucket on her
arm
Saying my darling son be careful how you run
For many a man has lost his life in trying to make lost
time
And if you run your engine right you'll get there just on
time

Up the road he darted against the rocks he crashed
Upside down the engine turned and Georgie's breast
was smashed
His head lay against the firebox door the flames were
rolling high
I'm glad to be born for an engineer on the C&O road to
die

The doctor said to Georgie my darling boy lie still
Your life may yet be saved if it is God's blessed will
Oh no said George that will not do I want to die so free
I want to die with the engine I love one hundred and
forty three

The doctor said to Georgie your life cannot be saved
Murdered upon a railroad and laid in a lonesome grave
His face was covered up with blood his eyes they could
not see
And the very last words poor Georgie said was nearer
my God to thee

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