

## Charley Patton

### "Pony Blues"

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Baby, saddle my pony, saddle up my black mare  
Baby, saddle my pony, saddle up my black mare  
I'm gonna find a rider, baby, in the world somewhere

"Hello central, the matter with your line?"  
"Hello central, matter, Lord, with your line?"  
"Come a storm last night an' tore the wire down"

Got a brand new Shetland, man, already trained  
Brand new Shetland, baby, already trained  
Just get in the saddle, tighten up on your reins

And a brownskin woman like somethin' fit to eat  
Brownskin woman like somethin' fit to eat  
But a jet black woman, don't put your hands on me

Took my baby, to meet the mornin' train  
Took baby, meet that mornin' train  
An' the blues come down, baby, like showers of rain

I got somethin' to tell you when I gets a chance  
Somethin' to tell you when I get a chance  
I don't wanna marry, just wanna be your man

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Note: Patton recorded two versions of this song. The first was entitled "Pony Blues" while the second changed to "Stoney Pony Blues"

This is one of Patton's most popular pieces. Most Delta musicians had a version of "Pony Blues" in their repertoire, Son House recorded a "Pony Blues" in his 1942 Library of Congress recordings. Tommy Johnson's "Bye Bye Blues" and Willie Brown's "M&O Blues" are both derivatives from the same source. As to which came first has never been clearly established.

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