

## Merle Haggard

### "Narration 1"

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When Jimmie Rodgers first sang California Blues he'd  
never been to the  
golden state. He wrote and recorded the song in  
October 1928  
He always dreamed of touring California but  
tuberculosis kept him from  
making such a tour. Most of Jimmie's in person  
performances were in the  
area from Texas east and it was in this area that he  
knew the railroads and  
the railroaders and the bums that road the rods  
Jimmie had a special feeling for the hobo  
And he was always good for a touch by one of the  
knights of the road  
He knew their problems and he knew them well  
For Jimmie had hoboed many of the main lines himself.

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