

Merle Haggard

"Nobody Knows But Me"

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(Jimmie Rodgers - Elsie McWilliams)

Nobody knows about the jailhouse blues till you get
within four walls
The jailerman turns that big black key that's when your
spirit falls
You drag yourself up to the bars and while you gaze
out at the stars
This is what you'll say.

Hey why did I stray from the righteous path, nobody
knows but me
There on the outside you all can laugh but I don't need
your sympathy
For after I've paid for the liquor I've stole
I'll leave this place worth my weight in gold
So why did I stray from the righteous path nobody knows
but me.

--- Instrumental ---

When you realize that you're all alone seated in a two-
by-four
That little cell is just a taste of hell if you ain't been
there before
Well you're locked up tight but they treat you fair
You get everything that you need in there
That's just why you'll say.

Well, why did I stray from the righteous path, nobody
knows but me
There on the outside you all can laugh but I don't need
your sympathy
For after I've paid for the liquor I've stole
I'll leave this place worth my weight in gold
So why did I stray from the righteous path nobody knows
but me.

Nobody knows but me...

