

## **Nanci Griffith "Mary & Omie"**

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My daddy was a longshoreman in New Orleans  
My mamma kept score just watchin' the Mardi Gras  
Oh me, I sat on the front porch watchin' the rails roll out  
I was waitin' for my Omie to take me outta this south  
It was me and my sisters like to wore that front porch  
out

And there can't be more to this livin' than loving my  
Omie  
We're both sittin' back here watchin' our children grow  
If there's a better ace in the deck  
Well, baby, come on and show me  
If you ain't got a hand then get on your wheel and roll  
'Cause there could never be a better hand than these  
hearts I hold

Me and my Omie, we settled down here in Houston  
Oh, and one by one, we moved my sisters west  
We bought a house in the suburbs and we've got four  
fine children  
We are black middle class because Omie wouldn't  
settle for less  
We are black middle class because Omie wouldn't  
settle for less

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If you ain't got a hand then get on your wheel and roll  
'Cause there could never be a better hand than these  
hearts I hold

My children are the first thing in my mornin'  
My Omie is the last thing in my night  
Oh, in between I dream about that porch back home  
And I bless my daddy for the love within that house  
But, I thank my Omie for takin' me outta the south

Look at these hearts I hold, oh, look at these hearts I  
hold

Look at these hearts I hold, there ain't no place like  
home  
Look at these hearts we hold, look at those hearts you  
hold  
Hey! My Omie's got a heart of gold, look at these  
hearts we hold  
Take a look at those hearts you hold

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