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Gertrude "Ma" Rainey "Moonshine Blues"

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- Hold him, Luke, he must be a bootlegger1! -

I've been drinking all night, babe, and the night before But when I get sober I ain't gonna drink no more 'Cause my friend's left me standing in my door

My head goes round and around, babe, since my baby left town

I don't know if the river's running up or down But that one thing certain is, mama's going to leave town

You'll find me reeling and a-rocking, howling like a hound
Catch the first train that's running Southbound
Oh stop, you'll hear me saying
Stop, right through my brain
Oh stop that train
So I can ride back home again

Here I'm upon my knees
Play that again for me
'Cause I'm about to be a-losing my mind
Boys, I can't stand up, I can't sit down
The man I love has done left town
I feel like screaming, I feel like crying, Lord
I've been mistreated, folks, and don't mind I'm dying
I'm going home, I'm going to settle down
I'm going to stop my running around
Tell everybody that comes my way
I've got those moonshine blues, I say
I've got those moonshine blues

Note 1: bootlegger, to manufacture, sell, or transport for sale alcoholic liquor illegally. In general, to produce, reproduce, or distribute illicitly or without authorization, CD's for example.

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