

JOHN HENRY

WELL, EVERY MONDAY MORNING WHEN THE BLUEBIRDS BEGIN TO SING  
YOU CAN SEE JOHN HENRY OUT ON THE LINE,  
YOU CAN HEAR JOHN HENRY'S HAMMER RING, LORD LORD,  
YOU CAN HEAR JOHN HENRY'S HAMMER RING  
YOU CAN HEAR JOHN HENRY'S HAMMER RING, LORD LORD,  
YOU CAN HEAR JOHN HENRY'S HAMMER RING

WHEN JOHN HENRY WAS A LITTLE BABY A-SITTING ON HIS PAPA'S KNEE  
HE PICKED UP A HAMMER AND A LITTLE PIECE OF STEEL,  
SAID, "HAMMER'S GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME, LORD, LORD  
HAMMER'S GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME."  
SAID, "HAMMER'S GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME, LORD, LORD  
HAMMER'S GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME."

WELL, THE CAPTAIN SAID TO JOHN HENRY,  
"GONNA BRING ME A STEAM DRILL 'ROUND  
GONNA BRING ME A STEAM DRILL OUT ON THE JOB  
GONNA WHUP THAT STEEL ON DOWN" ....

JOHN HENRY SAID TO HIS CAPTAIN,  
"A MAN AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A MAN  
AND BEFORE I LET THAT STEAM DRILL BEAT ME DOWN  
I'LL DIE WITH THE HAMMER IN MY HAND'....

JOHN HENFY SAID TO HIS SHAKER,  
"SHAKER, WHY DON'T YOU PRAY?  
'CAUSE IF I MISS THIS LITTLE PIECE OF STEEL,  
TOMORROW BE HOUR BURYIN' DAY"...

JOHN HENRY WAS DRIVING ON THE MOUNTAIN  
AND HIS HAMMER WAS FLASHING FIRE  
AND THE LAST WORDS I HEARD THAT POOR BOY SAY,

"GIMME A COOL DRINK OF WATER 'FORE I DIE"....

JOHN HENRY, HE DROVE FIFTEEN FEET

THE STEAM DRILL ONLY MADE NINE

BUT HE HAMMERED SO HARD THAT HE BROKE HIS POOR HEART

AND HE LAID DOWN HIS HAMMER AND HE DIED...

THEY TOOK JOHN HENRY TO THE GRAVEYARD

AND THEY BURIED HIM IN THE SAND

AND EVERY LOCOMOTIVE COMES A-ROARING BY SAYS,

"THERE LIES A STEEL-DRIVING MAN"....

WELL THERE'S SOME SAY HE CAME FROM TEXAS

THERE'S SOME SAY HE CAME FROM MAINE

WELL I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHERE THAT POOR BOY WAS FROM

YOU KNOW THAT, HE WAS A STEEL DRIVIN' MAN, LORD GOD

JOHN HENRY WAS A STEEL DRIVIN' MAN

WELL WHEN JOHN HENRY WAS A LITTLE BABY,

JUST A SITTING ON HIS MAMMY'S KNEE,

SAID THE BIG BEND TUNNEL ON THAT C & O ROAD

GONNA BE THE DEATH OF ME, LORD GOD

GONNA TO BE THE DEATH OF ME."

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