

# Rock Island Line

## Huddie "Leadbelly" Ledbetter

Now, this here's the story about the Rock Island line  
Now, the Rock Island line is a railroad line  
And it runs down into New Orleans  
And just outside of New Orleans is a big toll gate  
And all the trains that go through the toll gate  
Why, they gotta pay the man some money  
Less of course, they got certain things on board  
Then they okay, then they don't ever have to pay the man nothin'  
And right now, we see a train  
She's comin' on down the line  
And when she got up here to the toll gate  
The-a depot, he shout down to the driver  
He want to know what he got on board  
So he say a  
What you got on board there, boy  
And the driver, he sing right on back  
Down to the depot agent  
Tell him what he got on board  
The got a way of singing  
I got sheep, I got cows  
I got horses, I got pigs  
I got all livestock  
I got all livestock  
I got all livestock  
And the man say, well, he say  
Your alright there, boy  
You don't have to pay me nothin'  
Just get 'em on through  
So the train go through the toll gate  
And as it go through  
It got up a little bit of steam  
And a, a little bit of speed  
And when he sees me  
On the other side of the toll gate  
They, the driver shout back  
Down the line to the man  
'Course you don't hear what he say now  
But home down the Rock Island line  
I fooled you, I fooled you

I got pig iron, I got pig iron  
I got all pig iron  
He said, tell you where I'm goin', boy  
Goin' down the Rock Island line, yes, yes  
She's a mighty good road  
Oh well, the Rock Island line  
She's a mighty good road  
Rock Island line is the road to ride  
Ya, the Rock Island line  
Is a mighty good road  
And if you want to ride  
You gotta ride it  
Like you find it  
Get your ticket at the station  
On the Rock Island line  
Well, I may be right  
I may be wrong  
I know you're gonna miss me when I'm gone  
Ya, the Rock Island line  
She's a mighty good road  
Rock Island line is the road to ride  
Ya, the Rock Island line  
She's a mighty good road  
And if you want to ride  
You gotta ride it  
Like you find it  
Get your ticket at the station  
On the Rock Island line  
A B C, W X Y Z  
Cat's in the cupboard  
But he don't see me  
Now, the Rock Island line  
She's a mighty good road  
Rock Island line is the road to ride  
Ya, the Rock Island line  
She's a mighty good road  
And if you want to ride  
You gotta ride it  
Like you find it  
Get your ticket at the station  
On the Rock Island line  
Hallaluhah, I'm safe from sin  
The good Lord's comin'  
For to see me again  
Keep it goin'

And the Rock Island line  
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