

# When Will We Be Paid

## The Staple Singers

When will we be paid for the work we've done  
When will we be paid for the work we've done  
We fought in your wars in every land  
To keep this country free, y'all, for women, children, and men  
But every time we ask for pay or a loan  
That's when everything seems to turn out wrong  
We been beat up, called names, shot down and stoned  
Every time we do right, somebody say we're wrong Tell me  
When will we be paid for the work we've done  
When will we be paid for the work we've done  
Listen We worked this country from shore to shore  
Our women cooked all your food and washed all your clothes  
We picked cotton and laid the railroad steel  
Worked our hands down to the bone at your lumber mill Tell me  
When will we be paid for the work we've done  
When will we be paid for the work we've done  
Will we ever be proud of "My country, tis of thee"?  
Will we ever sing out loud, "Sweet land of Liberty"?  
When will we be paid for the work we've done?

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