

WABASH CANNONBALL

CHORUS:

Listen to the jingle, the rumble and the roar
As she glides along the woodland, through the hills and by the shore.
Hear the mighty rush of the engine, hear the lonesome hobo squall.
You're travelin' through the jungles on the Wabash Cannonball.

From the great Atlantic Ocean to the wide Pacific shore
From the queen of flowing mountains to the south bell by the shore.
She's mighty tall and handsome and known quite well by all.
She's the combination on the Wabash Cannonball.

She came down from Birmingham one cold December day.
As she rolled into the station, you could hear all the people say
There's a girl from Tennessee. She's long and she's tall.
She came down from Birmingham on the Wabash Cannonball.

CHORUS

.....INSTRUMENTAL BREAK.....

Our Eastern states are dandy, so the people always say
From New York to Saint Louis and Chicago by the way.
To the hills of Minnesota where the rippling waters fall,
No chances will be taken on the Wabash Cannonball.

Here's to daddy Claxton, may his name forever stand
And always be remembered 'round the courts of Alabam.
His earthly race is over, and the curtain round him fall.
He'll be carried home to victory on the Wabash Cannonball.

CHORUS

"Wabash Cannonball" is an American folk song which describes the scenic beauty and predicaments of the Wabash Cannonball Express as it traveled on the Great Rock Island train route. It traveled throughout the middle and western United States in the late 1800's and into the early 1900's.

As early as 1882, sheet music titled "The Great Rock Island Route" was credited to J. A. Roff. This version and all subsequent versions contain a variation of today's chorus. The Carter Family made one of the first recordings of the song in 1929, released in 1932. Another popular version was recorded by Roy Acuff in 1936. The Acuff version is one of fewer than 40 all-time singles to have sold 10 million physical copies worldwide.