

Railroad Man

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Don't think I ever caught his name
Though I always met his train
He'd roll in on the 3:15
And saw a tune for me
Platform full of passers-by
Drawn to the lonesome cry
Of the bow upon the strings
Lord, he made it sing

Chorus: Play your fiddle, railroad man
 Play away the coal dust on your hands
 Play the rhythm of the tracks
 Where you been and when you're comin' back

He carved the box from wormy wood
Sounded better than it should
Kept it in a burlap sack
Cinder-seared to black
Said he played to calm his mind
Share a song and pass the time
Made my day, I must confess,
He honored my request to...

Chorus: Play your fiddle, railroad man
 Play away the coal dust on your hands
 Play the rhythm of the tracks
 Where you been and when you're comin' back

Today the freight was waitin' here
With a brand new engineer
Stationmaster saw my grief
Said, "Child, follow me.
Your friend left something just for you.
You know what to do."
He handed me that violin
Told me with a grin...

Chorus: Play your fiddle, railroad man
 Play away the coal dust on your hands
 Play the rhythm of the tracks
 Where you been and when you're comin' back