Lots of folks back East, they say Is leavin' home every day Beatin' the hot old dusty way To the California line

'Cross the desert sands they roll
Gettin' out of that old dust bowl
They think they're goin' to a sugar bowl
But here's what they find
Now, the police at the port of entry say
"You're number fourteen thousand for today"

Oh, if you ain't got the do re mi, folks You ain't got the do re mi Why you better go back to beautiful Texas Oklahoma, Kansas, Georgia, Tennessee

California is a garden of Eden
A paradise to live in or see
But believe it or not you won't find it so hot
If you ain't got the do re mi

You want to buy you a home or a farm That can't deal nobody harm Or take your vacation
By the mountains or sea

Don't swap your old cow for a car You better stay right where you are Better take this little tip from me 'Cause I look through the want ads every day But the headlines on the papers always say

If you ain't got the do re mi, boys You ain't got the do re mi Why, you better go back to beautiful Texas Oklahoma, Kansas, Georgia, Tennessee

California is a garden of Eden
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If you ain't got the do re mi