

## Reuben James

Kenny Rogers

Reuben James

In my song you live again  
And the phrase that I rhyme  
Are just a footstep out of time  
From the time when I knew you

Reuben James

Reuben James, all the folks around Hadison County  
Cussed your name  
You're just a no-count, sharecropping colored man  
You'd steal anything you can  
And everybody laid the blame on Reuben James  
Reuben James, for you still walk  
Over fields of my mind  
Faded shirt, weathered brow  
Colored hands upon the plow  
Loved you then and I love you now

Reuben James

For a grave

The gossip of Hadison County died with chide  
Although your skin was black  
You were the one that didn't turn your back  
On the hungry white child with no name  
Reuben James, Reuben James  
With your mind on the soul  
And a bottle in your right hand  
You said turn the other cheek  
For there's a better world awaiting for the meek  
In my mind these words remain from Reuben James

Reuben James one dark cloudy day

They brought you from the field

And to your lonely crambox

Came just a preacher

Me and the rain

Just to sing one last refrain to Reuben James