

# So Long Train Whistle

Merle Haggard

Daddy's been a railroad man  
Since he was twenty-one  
Two yers of Britty ship  
Beakmen on the Denver run.

Thirty he made fireman  
Thirty-five an engineer  
Now at sixty-five  
He's reached the end of his career.

Daddy said he's glad it's over  
But he ain't foolin' me  
Last night I overheard him singing  
This sad old melody.

So long train whistle  
So long hmm-hmm  
This near generation  
Has no need for you or I.

We both served the nation  
Long before it learned to fly  
Nothing last forever  
Now it's our turn to die.

Lord hear that whistle cry.

Daddy's not the only one  
The railroad lines are fired  
And New York Central Limited  
Long since been retired.

The Chief is gone from Santa Fe  
The SP Lark as well  
I'm soon to rest to leave the rails  
Lord only time you tell.

I know that you can't stop progress  
New things happen every day  
We gonna mourn that lonely whistle  
If it finally fades away.

So long train whistle.  
So long hmm-hmm  
This near generation  
Has no need for you or I.

Mhm mhm hear that whistle cry, mhm mhm...