

Ol' Man River

By:Paul Robeson

lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; music by Jerome Kern,

There's an old man called the Mississippi,
Thats the old man I dont like to be!
What does he care if the worlds got troubles?
What does he care if the land aint free?

Ol' Man River, that Ol' Man River,
He must know somethin', but dont say nothin',
He just keeps rollin', he keeps on rollin' along.
He don't plant 'taters, he don't plant cotton,
And them that plants 'em is soon forgotten,
But Ol' Man River, he just keeps rollin' along.

You and me, we sweat and strain,
Body all achin' and racked with pain.
"Tote that barge!" "Lift that bale!"
You show a little grit and you'll land in jail.

I keep laughin' instead of cryin',
I must keep fightin' until I'm dying,
But Ol' Man River, he just keeps rollin' along.