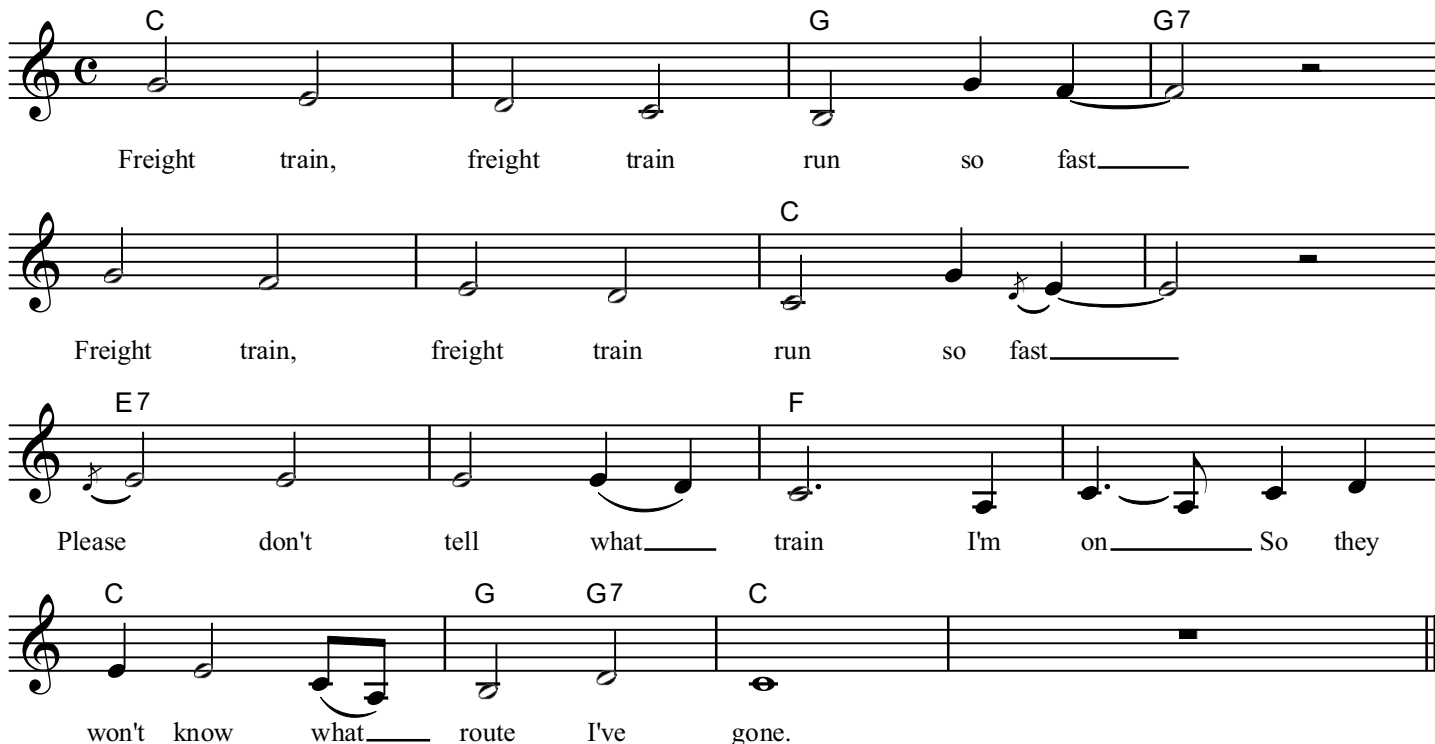


# FREIGHT TRAIN

Old-Time Instrumental and Song; Words and tune by Elizabeth Cotton; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **CATEGORY:** Instrumental Tunes; **RECORDING INFO:** Joan Baez; Norman Blake and Red Rector; Elizabeth Cotton; New Lost City Ramblers; Doc Watson; **NOTES:** The singing and playing of Elizabeth Cotten, from Chapel Hill, North Carolina is well known to anyone interested in traditional guitar styles. She had a very individual sound; because she played the guitar left-handed, with a right-handed guitar held upside down. "Freight Train" is Libba Cotten's most well known song. She composed it when she was about twelve years old, wondering where the train that ran past her farm might be headed and what the people there might be like.



Freight train, freight train run so fast

Freight train, freight train run so fast

Please don't tell what train I'm on. So they

won't know what route I've gone.

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**Chorus:** Freight train, freight train run so fast, Freight train, freight train run so fast,  
 Please don't tell what train I'm on, So they won't know what route I've gone.

1. When I die Lord bury me deep, Way down on old Chesnut Street,  
 So I can hear old Number Nine, As she goes rolling by. Chorus

2. When I'm dead and in my grave, No more good times here I'll crave,  
 Place the stones at my head and feet, And tell them all that I've gone to sleep.

*Chorus*