

# Robert Earl Keen, Jr., Goin' Nowhere Blues

In the corner of the barroom  
Lives the ghost of Langston Hughes  
He's takin' notes and smokin' cigarettes  
Sippin' slowly on his booze  
Got them goin' nowhere blues

And on the stage beneath the spotlight  
Woody Guthrie sings the news  
He's always ready for the good fight  
Never thinkin' that he'll lose  
Got them goin' nowhere blues  
Through the back way in the alley  
Sellin' all you should refuse  
Looks like Jane has finally given in  
Hey, what the hell it ain't no use  
Got them goin' nowhere blues

Out the front around the corner  
Martin Luther shines your shoes  
He's preachin' justice and equality  
I guess Martin's payin' dues  
He's got them goin' nowhere blues

On the other side it's a free ride  
You've got money you can burn  
When the ground shakes and the earth breaks  
Which way you gonna turn  
Are you ever gonna learn  
In the poolroom on the table  
Swillin' wine and smashin' cues  
They locked him up last night for fighting  
Cesar Chavez blew a fuse  
He's got them goin' nowhere blues

All the members of the union  
All the farm and labor crews  
They used to be meet here by the dozens  
They disappeared in ones and twos  
Got them goin' nowhere blues  
So you wonder why they come here  
They come here to look for clues  
Passin' time until they live again  
To fight these going nowhere views  
Leave these goin' nowhere blues  
To fight these goin' nowhere views