

Murray McLauchlan, Train Song

I saw the sky fill up with engine
Heard the world fill up with noise
Laid a penny on the track, got a flapjack back
As the driver waved to the boys
I watched the people at the window
From the bushes as the diner flew by
Now I look from the window of the diner
For a kid with hungry eyes

This is a train song
It's a song about gettin' lost
It's a song about what that cost
This is a train song
For birds that are stuck on the ground
For ears that only listen
For distant sounds

Just me and the stars on a flatcar
As the train pulled into Schrieber town
Cop saw me jump and I was runnin'
I was scared he's gonna run me down
Now I see the porter smilin' to my left hand
As he's lookin' at the money
That I'm holdin' in my right
And I think how it's nice he wants to know my name
And I laugh out the window at the night

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For distant sounds

Hear the mourning of the midnight whistle
Hear the ringin' of the railroad sign
On the double street high line
They say every railroad line has a bad side
Where they make all the poor people stay
Though some of the bad ones
Might make it across
That train passes by anyway

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