



Life's Railway To Heaven

Life is like a mountain railroad with an engineer that's brave
You must make the run successful from the cradle to the grave
Watch the curves, the fills, the tunnels never falter never quail
Keep your hand upon the throttle and your eye upon the rail

Blessed Savior Thou wilt guide us as we reach that blissful shore
Where the angel's wait to join us in thy praise forever more

You will often find obstruction watch for storms of wind and rain
On a curve, a fill, or trestle, they will almost ditch your train
Put your Trust alone in Jesus never falter never fail
Keep your hand upon the throttle and your eye upon the rail

Blessed Savior Thou wilt guide us as we reach that blissful shore
Where the angel's wait to join us in thy praise forever more

As you roll across the trestle, spanning Jordan's swelling tide,
You behold the Union Depot into which your train will glide;
There you'll meet the Superintendent, God the Father, God the Son,
With the hearty, joyous, plaudit, "Weary pilgrim, welcome home!"

Blessed Savior Thou wilt guide us as we reach that blissful shore
Where the angel's wait to join us in thy praise forever more

Where the angel's wait to join us in thy praise forever more

Words & Music by: Public Domain Words: See notes below.

Music: Charles D. Tillman.

The origin of this song is murky. Eliza R. Snow (1804-1887) may have written the original lyrics, with M. E. Abbey (a Baptist minister in Georgia in the 1890s) supplying the chorus. There is a similar poem/hymn by Snow, called "Truth Reflects upon Our Senses," which Tillman put to this same tune in 1909. At any rate, Abbey and Tillman copyrighted "Life's Railway to Heaven" in 1890. It has long been a favorite in the railroading community.

Before adding the lyrics to this page, this one song had drawn more requests for the words than all others combined.

Must be a lot of old time railroaders out there!