

I HOPE HE LIVES A LIFE OF EASE

David Massengill put on an outstanding show for us at the March second Saturday concert. This song is always one of his most-requested, and I have heard a number of people say that it is their favorite among David's many great songs. The rolling, dulcet tones of his dulcimer provide a perfect accompaniment. David has graciously given us permission to publish his song. You can listen to it here:

<https://youtu.be/LWHL4bQVmU4?si=nqjeJqdqmKN6-VUH>

RIDER ON AN ORPHAN TRAIN

By David Massengill

C **G**
Once I rode an orphan train,
F **C**
And my brother did the same.
F
They split us up in Missouri.
C **G** **C**
James was five and I was three.

C **G**
He got taken by some pair,
F **C**
But for me they did not care.
F
We were brave and did not cry
C **G** **C**
When they made us say goodbye.

C **F**
That was the last I saw of him
C **G**
Before some family took me in,
C **F**
But I swore I'd run away
C **G** **C**
And find my brother James some day.

I went back when I was grown
To see how old the Children's Home (sic),
And I asked for to see my file
Of when I was an orphan child.

It's sad, they say, there's been a flood.
File washed away in Missouri mud.
Sometimes life is a stone wall.
You either climb or else you fall.

In every time on every street,
All the faces that I meet,
And I wonder could one be
My brother James come back to me?

Though I don't know where he's gone,
I have searched my whole life long.
Now I roam from town to town
But there's no orphan lost-and-found.

Sometimes I dream a pleasant sight:
My brother James and I unite.
Remembering our last goodbye,
No longer brave, we start to cry.

I hope he lives a life of ease,
All his days a soft warm breeze.
May he sit upon a throne,
And may he never sleep alone.

(Repeat first verse)