

## San Francisco Bay Blues





1. I got the blues when my baby left me down by the Frisco Bay;  
An ocean liner came and took her away.  
I didn't mean to treat her bad, she was the best gal I ever had;  
She said good-bye, made me cry,  
Made me wanna lay down my head and die.
2. Well I ain't got a nickel, and I ain't got a lousy dime.  
She don't come back, I think I'm gonna lose my mind.  
She ever comes back to stay, it's gonna be another brand new day,  
Walkin' with my baby by the San Francisco Bay.
3. Well, I'm sittin' here on the back porch, don't know which way to go;  
The gal that I'm so crazy about, she don't love me anymore.  
Think I'm gonna take a freight train, cause I'm feelin' blue,  
Gonna ride it to the end of the line, thinkin' only of you.
4. Well I ain't got a nickel, and I ain't got a lousy dime?  
She don't come back, I think I'm gonna lose my mind  
She ever comes back to stay, it's gonna be another brand new day  
Walkin' with my baby by the San Francisco Bay
5. Meanwhile, in another city, just about to go insane,  
Thought I heard my baby, Lord, the way she used to call my name.  
If I ever get her back to stay, it's going to be another brand new day,  
Walking with my baby down by the San Francisco Bay.

Walkin' with my baby by the San Francisco Bay.  
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"San Francisco Bay Blues" is an American blues, generally considered to be the most famous composition by Jesse Fuller. Fuller first recorded the song in 1954 (released 1955) for a small label called World Song.

The song was brought into wider popularity in the early 1960s by club performances by Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Bob Dylan and Jim Kweskin.

Recorded covers have been performed by many artists including The Blues Band, Paul Jones, Jim Croce, The Weavers, Sammy Walker, The Brothers Four, The Dapper Dans, Paul Clayton, Richie Havens, Eric Clapton, The Flatlanders, Paul McCartney, Hot Tuna, Janis Joplin, John Lennon, Peter, Paul and Mary, Mungo Jerry, Glenn Yarbrough, George Ellias, Phoebe Snow, The Wave Pictures, The Halifax III and Eva Cassidy. A "one-man band" rendition of the song featuring a kazoo solo was recorded by Fuller himself in a 1962 concert. This has been included in a Smithsonian Folkways compilation **Friends of Old Time Music**.

Topic Records issued the original Jesse Fuller version on a 10-inch vinyl LP called **Working on the Railroad** in 1959 and included it as track six of the first CD of the Topic Records 70 year anniversary boxed set **Three Score and Ten**.