

# (Charlie on the) M.T.A.

Lyrics by Jacqueline Steiner and Bess Lomax Hawes

## *Verse 1*

Well let me **tell** you of the story of a man named Charlie. On a tragic and fateful day,  
He put **ten** cents in his pocket, kissed his wife and family, went to ride on the MTA.

## *Chorus*

Well did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned. (*what a pity*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Verse 2*

Charlie **handed** in his dime at the Kendall Square station and he changed for Jamaica Plain.  
When he **got** there the conductor told him, "One more nickel." Charlie couldn't get off of that train!

## *Chorus*

But did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned. (*poor old Charlie*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Verse 3*

Now **all** night long, Charlie rides through the stations crying "What will become of me?  
**How** can I afford to see my sister in Chelsea, or my cousin, in Roxbury?"

## *Chorus*

But did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned. (*shame and scandal*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Verse 4*

Charlie's **wife** goes down to the Scollay Square station every day at quarter past two,  
And through the **open** window she hands Charlie a sandwich as the train comes rumbling through.

## *Chorus*

But did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned. (*he may ride forever*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Verse 5*

Now you **citizens** of Boston, don't you think its a scandal how the people have to pay and pay?  
Fight the **fare** increase! Vote for Walter O'Brien. Get poor Charlie off the MTA.

## *Chorus*

Or else he'll never return, no he'll never return, and his fate is still unlearned. (*just like Paul Revere*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Extra Chorus*

But did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned. (*on the Arborway line*)  
He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned.

## *Tags*

He's the man who never returned.  
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