**SCRIPT ENOUGH TO BUY THE COMPANY STORE**

Jean Ritchie, who died June 1 of this year , first recorded *The L & N Don’t Stop Here Anymore* in 1965. Since then it has been covered in recordings by at least 21 other artists, and live by countless other folk singers. Born in an unincorporated community in the Cumberland Mountains of south eastern Kentucky, Jean went on to graduate Phi Beta Kappa from Kentucky University, and later was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to trace the links between American ballads and songs from Britain and Ireland. You can hear Jean’s original recording of this song at the link below. I have transcribed the song below in the same key as the original recording, Am.

**The L & N Don’t Stop Here Any More**

*By Jean Ritchie*

**Am G Am**

When I was a curly headed baby **G Am**

My daddy sat me down on his knee **G Am**

He said, "son, go to school and get your letters, **G Am**

Don't you be a dusty miner, boy, like me."

**[Chorus:]**

 **G Am**

I was born and raised at the mouth of hazard hollow **G Am**

The coal cars rolled and rumbled past my door  **G**  **Am**

But now they stand in a rusty row all empty **Em Am**

And the L & N don't stop here anymore

I used to think my daddy was a black manWith script enough to buy the company storeBut now he goes to town with empty pockets

And his face is white as a February snow

[Chorus]

I never thought I'd learn to love the coal dustI never thought I'd pray to hear that whistle roarOh, god, I wish the grass would turn to money

And those green backs would fill my pockets once more

[Chorus]

Last night I dreamed I went down to the officeTo get my pay like a had done beforeBut them ol' kudzu vines were coverin' the doorAnd there were leaves and grass growin' right up through the floor

[Chorus]