



## 2. Leadbelly's "asked for your hand" version:

Asked your mother for you, she told me that you was too young.  
I wished to the Lord that I never seen your face.  
I'm sorry you ever was born.

CHORUS:

G                    D                    G  
Irene, Goodnight. Irene, Goodnight.

                                 C                    D                    G  
Goodnight Irene, Goodnight Irene, I gets you in my dreams.

Stop ramblin', stop gamblin', stop stayin' out late at night.  
Go home to your wife and family; sit down by the fireside bright.

CHORUS:

Sometimes I lives in the country, sometimes I lives in town.  
Sometimes I has a great notion to jump in the river & drown.

CHORUS:

Stop ramblin' & stop gamblin', quit stayin' out late at night.  
Go home to your wife and family; sit down by the fireside bright.

CHORUS:

I love Irene, God knows I do; love her 'til the sea runs dry.  
If Irene turns her back on me, I'm gonna take morphine & die.

*[no final CHORUS - this version ends on the word "die"]*

### 3. Usual version [pick & choose which verses you prefer]:

CHORUS:

G                    D                    G  
Irene, Goodnight. Irene, Goodnight.

                                 C                    D                    G  
Goodnight Irene, Goodnight Irene, I'll see you in my dreams.

Last Saturday night I got married; me and my wife settled down.  
Now, me & my wife have parted; I'm gonna take another stroll downtown.

CHORUS:

Some folks, they like their sugar & some folks, they like their wine.  
Some folks love their music and they sing it all the time.

CHORUS:

Stop ramblin', stop gamblin', stop stayin' out late at night.  
Go home to your wife and family & stay by the fireside bright.

CHORUS:

Sometimes I live in the country, sometimes I live in town.  
Sometimes I take a fool notion to jump in the river and drown.

CHORUS:

I love Irene, I swear I do; love her 'til the sea runs dry.  
And if Irene ever turns her back on me, I'm gonna take morphine & die.

CHORUS: