

ROUTE 66

From North to South and to the West it sweeps -
it's called the Mother Road.
It carries a nation's priceless human wealth -
they are the mother lode!

There is this place called America,
where everyone can stand,
a place where families live in peace,
working hand in hand.

But somehow it got lost
in the wind and dust and drought.
Still they're out there searching,
pouring from the South,

leaving the land that's forsaken them -
that has stolen all they own -
and in dying scorn it blows away,
and last it takes their homes.

They are the modern Jews,
headed out of Egypt to the promised land.
There is a path out of this wilderness,
this desolate, dry land -

Route 66! Gateway to the West!
It carries all their dreams:
their hopes for a place to live and work,
for home, and all it means.

Westward they pour, Okies on the move,
escaping from the dust!
A common goal, a single path,
"California or we bust! "

A million dreams went down Route 66,
and some were left to die,
a million hopes and plans,
in cars, and trucks, and buses loaded high!

Route 66! Gateway to a better life!
They traveled it with faith;
with prayers and determination,
they chase the slippery wraith!

We know some found that better life,
some only the bitter end of road,
where the heartaches and disappointments
piled so high they couldn't tote the load.

Route 66! The stuff of legends -
much bigger than is real!
It's a piece of America,
a past that time can't steal.

But the Mother Road is gone now,
or only bits remain.
And like the human tide that rolled this way,
it won't be back again.

Still, the ghosts of those who traveled
down this lost highway
speak to us of the places
and the time of their great getaway.

When this was **the** road - the road to paradise!
And Route 66 will never die -
it's the stuff of legends
because of all their sacrifice!

Route 66! It's the Grapes of Wrath, and TV shows,
and western songs, and motels by the score!
It is a thousand cities split by a road -
but joined by the motor's roar!