

The MTA Song

The Kingston Trio

Spoken intro:

The Metropolitan Transit Authority, better known as the MTA, is attempting to levy a burdensome tax on the population in the form of a subway fare increase. Citizens, hear me out— this could happen to you!

All: Well let me tell you a story 'bout a man named Charlie
On a trag-ic and fate-ful day
He put ten cents in his pock-et, kissed his wife and family,
Went to ride on the M.T.A (bye, honey!)

Chorus: **Well, did he ever return? No he never returned**
And his fate is still unlearned (*what a pity*)
He may ride for – ev – er 'neath the streets of Bost – on
He's the man who nev-er re-turned.

Men: Char-lie handed in his dime at the Kendall Square Station,
Got a train for Jamaica Plains
When he got there the conductor told him One more nickel!
Char-lie could-n't get off that train

Chorus: **Well, did he ever return? No he never returned**
And his fate is still unlearned (*poor old Charlie*)
He may ride for – ev – er 'neath the streets of Bost – on
He's the man who nev-er re-turned.

Men: Charlie's wife goes down to the Kendall Square Station
Every day at quarter past two
And through the op-en window she hands
Charlie a sandwich as the train goes rumblin through

Chorus: **Well, did he ever return? No he never returned**
And his fate is still unlearned (*just like Polly*)
He may ride for – ev – er 'neath the streets of Bost – on
He's the man who nev-er re-turned.

Men: Now all night long Char-lie rides through the the sta-tion
Crying, "What will be-come of me?"
How can I af-ford to see my sist-er in Chel-sea
Or my cous-in in Roxbury?

Chorus: Well, did he ever return? No he never returned
And his fate is still unlearned (*what a pity*)
He may ride for – ev – er ‘neath the streets of Bost – on
He’s the man who nev-er re-turned.

All: Now you citizens of Boston don’t you think it’s a scandal
How the people have to pay and pay
Fight the fare in-crease <*shout*>Fight the fare in-crease
Get poor Charlie off the M T A

Chorus: Or he’ll never return, no he’ll never return
And his fate will be unlearned (*he may ride forever*)
He will ride for – ev – er ‘neath the streets of Bost – on
He’s the man who’ll nev-er re-turn.
He’s the man who’ll nev-er re-turn.
He’s the man who’ll nev-er re-turn.