

The Mississippi Stoker

sheet music key: G

Earle C. Jones • 1907

I'm a stok - er on the riv - er pack - et called the Nan - cy Lee, And I'm
 Once my broth - er threw a pok - er deck in - to the kit - chen fire, 'Cause I
 I was on the La - dy Liz - zie when she beat the Kan - ka - kee, But they
 Oh, my dad - dy was a "whal - er" with a club or bug - gy whip, And my

just a - bout the hard - est guy you'll find in Ten - nes - see. In my young - er days I used to want to
 said that he was cheat - ing and he was an aw - ful liar, But I grabbed 'em out and stamped 'em till I
 nev - er would have done it if it had - n't been for me. When her boil - ers up and bust - ed, and the
 sis - ter wore a sail - or hat up - on her wed - ding trip. My old ma - ma knew that I would be a

sail up - on a ship, But I nev - er got no fur - ther than the mud - dy Mis - sis - sip'.
 had the blaze in check. That is why I'm called "the boy who stood up - on the burn - ing deck".
 La - dy Liz - zie sunk. Cap - tain John - son, he was on the dock, and I was on a drunk.
 sail - or first of all, Just be - cause my hair was "wa - vy" and I nev - er feared a squall.

All my peo - ple liked the wat - er, but they
 Oh, I used to fish for floun - ders and I
 When the Lou - is - ville was burn - ing with her
 Oh, my Un - cle Dud - ley had a yacht he

took it "on the side", And my Un - cle Hez - e - ki - ah used to go up - on a "tide". Once he
 sold them, you can bet, All the peo - ple liked to buy of me, be - cause I sold 'em "net". I could
 nose a - gainst the bank, I held her till the pas - sen - gers had walked a - cross the plank. Then they
 called "The Spot - ted Pup", And the dog - fish used to bark at it when sail - ing for the cup, But the

went in - to a tav - ern just to get a strong ci - gar, And un - load - ed for - ty schoon - ers that were
 al - ways catch the suck - ers that were swim - ming 'round the stern, 'Cause I'd wig - gle like Fa - ti - ma and they
 pinned a med - al on my chest, and gol - ly! how it hurt, For they nev - er seemed to no - tice that I
 cup be nev - er lift - ed and the rea - son's might - y clear: It was just be - cause they all for - got to

stand - ing on the bar.
 thought I was a worm.
 had - n't on a shirt.
 fill it up with beer.