

This traditional folk song of a life gone wrong in New Orleans is possibly based on broadside ballads that English emigrants took to America. Alan Price of the English group The Animals (who recorded the song in 1964) claims that it's based on a 16th-century English folk song about a Soho brothel. The song was among those collected by folklorist Alan Lomax on an expedition to eastern Kentucky in 1937.

# House of the Rising Sun

INTRO (in  $\frac{3}{4}$  time; give each chord 6 strums:

one-two-three, one-two-three) Am C D F Am E7 Am E7

Am C D F  
There is, a house in New Orleans

Am C E7 E7

They call the Rising Sun

Am C D F

And it's been the ruin of many a poor boy

Am E7 Am E7

And God I know I'm one

Am C D F

My mother was a tailor

Am C E7 E7

She sewed my new bluejeans

Am C D F

My father was a gamblin' man

Am E7 Am E7

Down in New Orleans

Am C D F

Now the only thing a gambler needs

Am C E7 E7

Is a suitcase and a trunk

Am C D F

And the only time he's satisfied

Am E7 Am E7

Is when he's on a drunk



Am C D F  
Well, I got one foot on the platform

Am C E7 E7

The other foot on the train

Am C D F

I'm goin' back to New Orleans

Am E7 Am E7

To wear that ball and chain

Am C D F

Oh mothers tell your children

Am C E7 E7

Not to do what I have done

Am C D F

And spend your lives in sin and misery

Am E7 Am E7

In the House of the Rising Sun

REPEAT 1st VERSE; END ON Am

