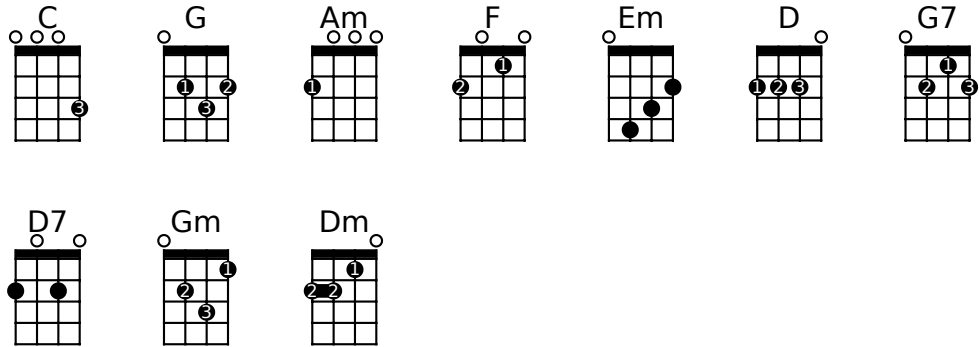


# City of New Orleans

Steve Goodman - 1971



First Sung Note: G

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SfPyg-mGhU>

**[C]** Riding on the **[G]** City of New **[C]** Orleans

**[Am]** Illinois Central **[F]** Monday morning **[C]** rail

**[C]** Fifteen cars and **[G]** fifteen restless **[C]** riders

**[Am]** Three conductors and **[G]** twenty five sacks of **[C]** mail

All a-**[Am]** long the south bound odyssey the **[Em]** train pulls out of  
Kenkakee

**[G]** Rolls along past houses farms and **[D]** fields

**[Am]** Passing trains that have no name **[Em]** freight yards full of old black  
men

And the **[G]** graveyards of **[G7]** rusted automo-**[C]** biles

**[F]** Good morning A-**[G]**-merica how **[C]** are you

Say **[Am]** don't you know me **[F]** I'm your native **[C]** son **[G7]**

I'm the **[C]** train they call the **[G]** City of New **[Am]** Orleans **[D7]**

I'll be **[Gm]** gone five **[Dm]** hundred **[G]** miles when the day is **[C]** done

**[C]** Dealing card games with the **[G]** old men in the **[C]** club car

**[Am]** Penny a point ain't **[F]** no-one keeping **[C]** score

**[C]** Pass the paper **[G]** bag that holds the **[C]** bottle

**[Am]** Feel the wheels **[G]** rumbling 'neath the **[C]** floor

And the **[Am]** sons of Pullman porters and the **[Em]** sons of engineers

Ride their **[G]** father's magic carpets made of **[D]** steel

**[Am]** Mothers with their babes asleep **[Em]** rocking to the gentle beat

And the **[G]** rhythm of the **[G7]** rails is all they **[C]** feel

[C] Night time on the [G] City of New [C] Orleans  
[Am] Changing cars in [F] Memphis Tenne [C] ssee  
[C] Half way home [G] we'll be there by [C] morning  
Through the [Am] Mississippi darkness [G] rolling down to the [C] sea  
But [Am] all the towns and people seem to [Em] fade into a bad dream  
And the [G] steel rail still ain't heard the [D] news  
The con-[Am]-ductor sings his songs again  
The [Em] passengers will please refrain  
This [G] train got the disap-[G7] pearing railroad [C] blues

[F] Good night A-[G] merica how [C] are you  
Say [Am] don't you know me [F] I'm your native [C] son [G7]  
I'm the [C] train they call the [G] City of New [Am] Orleans [D7]  
I'll be [Gm] gone five [Dm] hundred [G] miles when the day is [C] done  
I'll be [Gm] gone five [Dm] hundred [G] miles when the day is [C] done