

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Written by Steve Goodman (1970), made famous by Arlo Guthrie (1972)

DR&DE11/23

Key: C **Start Note:** E **Time:** 4/4 **Strum:** D_ du _u du

Intro: C /// G /// C /// C↓

1. C G C
Riding on the City of New Orleans
Am F C G
Illinois Central Monday morning rail
C G C
Fifteen cars and fifteen restless riders
 Am G C
Three conductors and twenty-five sacks of mail
 Am Em
All along the southbound Odyssey the train pulls out of Kenkakee
 G D
And rolls along past house farms and fields
Am Em
Passing trains that have no name freight yards full of old black men
 G G7 C C7
And the graveyards of rusted automobiles.

CHORUS:

F G7 C
Good morning America, how are you?
Am F C G7
Say don't you know me I'm your native son
C G Am F
I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans
Bb ↓↓ F ↓↓ G C
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done

2. G C
Dealing card games with the old men in the club car
Am F C G
Penny a point ain't no one keeping score
C G C
Pass the paper bag that holds the bottle
Am G C
Feel the wheels rumbling 'neath the floor
 Am Em
And the sons of Pullman porters and the sons of engineers
 G D
Ride their father's magic carpet made of steel

Am Em
Mothers with their babes asleep rocking to the gentle beat
 G G7 C C7
And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel

CHORUS:

F **G7** **C**
Good morning America, how are you?
Am **F** **C** **G7**
Say don't you know me I'm your native son
C **G** **Am** **F**
I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans
Bb ↓↓ **F ↓↓** **G** **C**
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done

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

CHORUS:

F **G7** **C**
Good night America, how are you?
Am **F** **C** **G7**
Say don't you know me I'm your native son
C **G** **Am** **F**
I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans
Bb ↓↓ **F ↓↓** **G** **C**
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done

Outro: **Bb ↓↓** **F ↓↓** **G** **C** **C↓**
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done