

City of New Orleans

Key of C

Arlo Guthrie 1972 (Steve Goodman)

Intro:

C

Verse 1:

C G C
Riding on the City of New Orleans
Am F C
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
All along the south bound odyssey,
 Em
the train pulls out of Kankakee
G D
Rolls along past houses, farms and fields
Am
Passing trains that have no name,
Em
freight yards full of old black men
 G G7 C
And the graveyards of the rusted automobiles.

Chorus:

F G7 C
Good morning America, how are you?
 Am F C
Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son.
G7 C G Am D7
I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans
 F G G7 C
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.

Verse 2:

C G C
Dealing card games with the old men in the club car
Am F C
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 rumblin' 'neath the floor
 Am Em
And the sons of Pullman porters and the sons of engineers

G Ride their fathers' magic carpets made of steel **D**
Am Mothers with their babes asleep, rockin' to the gentle beat **Em**
G And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel. **G7** **C**

Chorus:

F Good morning America, how are you? **G7** **C**
Am Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son. **F** **C**
G7 I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans **G** **Am** **D7**
F I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done. **G** **G7** **C**

Verse 3:

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

Chorus 2:

F Good night America, how are you? **G** **C**
Am Say, don't you know me, I'm your native son. **F** **C** **G7**
G7 I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans **G** **Am** **D7**
F I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done. **G** **G7** **C**
F I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done. **G** **G7** **C**

