

# CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Steve Goodman 1971

**INTRO:** 1 2 / 1 2 3 4 / [C] / [C] /

[C] Riding on the [G] City of New [C] Orleans [C]  
[Am] Illinois Central [F] Monday morning [C] rail [C]  
[C] Fifteen cars and [G] fifteen restless [C] riders [C]  
Three con-[Am]ductors, and [G] twenty-five sacks of [C] mail [C]  
All a-[Am]long the south-bound odyssey, the [Em] train pulls out of Kenkakee  
[G] Rolls along past houses, farms, and [D] fields [D]  
[Am] Passing trains that have no name [Em] freight yards full of old black men  
And the [G] graveyards of the [G7] rusted automo-[C]biles [C]

## CHORUS:

[F] Good morning A-[G]merica, how [C] are you? [C]  
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 [Bb] gone five [F] hundred [G] miles when the day is [C] done [C]

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

## Repeat CHORUS

[C] Night time on the [G] City of New [C] Orleans [C]  
[Am] Changing cars in [F] Memphis Tennes-[C]see [C]  
[C] Half way home [G] we'll be there by [C] morning [C]  
Through the [Am] Mississippi darkness [G] rolling down to the [C] sea [C]  
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 [D]  
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 [C]

## FINAL CHORUS:

[F] Good night A-[G]merica, how [C] are you? [C]  
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 [Bb] gone five [F] hundred [G] miles when the day is [C] done [C]  
I'll be [Bb] gone five [F] hundred [G] miles when the day is [C] done [C]↓

