City of New Orleans chords

Arlo Guthrie 1972 (Steve Goodman)

Intro

C

Verse 1

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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 south bound odyssey, the train pulls out of Kenkakee
G                               D
Rolls along past houses, farms and fields
Am                          Em
Passing towns that have no name, freight yards full of old black men
        G                 G7          C
And the graveyards of the rusted automobiles.
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Chorus

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F             G          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
        Bb      F       G                 C
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.
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Verse 2

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          C                    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 rumblin' 'neath the floor
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          Am                            Em
And the sons of Pullman porters and the sons of engineers
G                                       D
Ride their fathers' magic carpets made of steel
Am                          Em
Mothers with their babes asleep, rockin' to the gentle beat
          G           G7          C
And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel.
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Chorus

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F            G          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
        Bb      F     G                  C
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.
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Verse 3

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C            G     C
Night time on the City of New Orleans
Am              F            C   G
Changing cars in Memphis, Tennessee
C          G              C
Halfway home, we'll be there by morning
          Am                  G              C
through the Mississippi darkness rolling down to the sea.
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    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 got the disappearing railroad blues.


Chorus

F           G         C
Good night 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
        Bb        F       G                     C
I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.
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