

Capo 3

[Verse 1]

G D G
Riding on the City of New Orleans,
Em C G
Illinois Central, Monday morning rail,
G D G
There are fifteen cars and fifteen restless riders,
Em D G
Three conductors, and twenty five sacks of mail.

Em
They're all out on the southbound odyssey,
Bm
And the train pulls out of Kankakee,
D A
Rolls along past the houses, farms and fields.

Em
Passing towns that have no name,
Bm
And freight yards full of old black men,
D G
And the graveyards of rusted automobiles.

[Chorus]

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

[Verse 2]

G D G
Dealing card games with the old men in the club cars,
Em C G
A penny a point, ain't no one keeping score.
G D G
Pass the paper bag that holds the bottle,
Em D G
And feel the wheels rumbling 'neath the floor.

Em
And the sons of Pullman porters,
Bm
And the sons of engineers,
D A
Ride their fathers' magic carpet made of steam.

Em
Mothers with their babes asleep,
Bm
Rocking to the gentle beat,
D G
And the rhythm of the rails is all they dream.

[Chorus]

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

[Verse 3]

G D G
Nighttime on the City of New Orleans,
Em C G
Changing cars in Memphis, Tennessee.
G D G
Halfway home, and we'll be there by morning,
Em D G
Through the Mississippi darkness, rolling down to the sea.

Em
But all the towns and people seem
Bm
To fade into a bad dream,
D A
The steel rails still ain't heard the news.

Em
The conductor sings his songs again,
Bm
The passengers will please refrain,
D G
This train's got the disappearin' railroad blues.

[Chorus]

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