City of New Orleans [G] key:G, writer:Steve Goodman [Em] [C] [G] [D]
Illinois Central Monday morning rail [G] [G] There are fifteen cars and fifteen restless riders, [Em] [D] [G] Three conductors and twenty-five sacks of mail. [Em]
They're out on a southbound odyssey, the train pulls out of Kankakee Rolling past the houses, farms and fields. [Em]
Passin' towns that have no names, and freight yards full of old black men [D] [D7] [G] And the graveyards of rusted automobiles. (CHORUS) [C] [D] [G]
Good morning America how are you? [Em] [C] [G] [D] Say don't you know me I'm your native son [G] [D] [Em] I'm the train they call The City of New Orleans, [C] [D] [G] I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done. [G] [D] [G] Dealin' cards with the old men in the club car. [Em] [C] [G] [D] Penny a point ain't no one keepin' score. [G] Won't you pass that paper bag that holds the bottle [Em] [D] [G] Yeah and feel the wheels a- rumblin' neath the floor. [Em] [Bm] And the sons of pullman porters and the sons of engineers [D] [A] All ride their fathers' magic carpet made of steel.

(CHORUS) [C] [G] Good morning America how are you?
[Em] [C] [G] [D] Say don't you know me I'm your native son
[G] [D] [Em] [A7] I'm the train they call The City of New Orleans,
[C] [D] [G] I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.
[G] [G] Night-time on The City of New Orleans,
[Em] [C] [G] [D] Changing cars in Memphis, Tennessee.
[G] [G] Half way home, 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 to fade into a bad dream
And the steel rail still ain't heard the news.
[Em] The conductor sings his song again, the passengers will please refrain
[D] [G] This train has got them disappearing railroad blues.
(CHORUS) [C] [G] Good night America how are you?
[Em] [C] [G] [D] Say don't you know me? I'm your native son
[G] [D] [Em] [A7] I'm the train they call The City of New Orleans,
[C] [D] [G] I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.
[C] [D] [G] I'll be gone five hundred miles when the day is done.