The Great Compromise

John Prine 1972

INTRO: / 1 2 3 /
[C]/[C]/[C]/[F]/
[C]/[C]/[C]/[C]

I knew a **[C]** girl who was almost a lady **[C]**
She had a **[F]** way with all the men in her **[C]** life **[C]**
Every **[G]** inch of her blossomed in beauty **[G]**
She was **[F]** born on the Fourth of Ju-**[C]**ly **[F]/[C]/[C]**

Well she **[C]** lived in an aluminum house trailer **[C]**
And she **[F]** worked in a juke-box sa-**[C]**loon **[C]**
And she **[G]** spent all the money that I'd give her **[G]**
Just to **[F]** see the ol' man in the **[C]** moon **[C]**

CHORUS:
I used to **[C]** sleep at the foot of Old Glory **[C]**
And a-**[F]**waken at dawn's early **[C]** light **[C]**
But much **[F]** to my surprise when I **[C]** opened my eyes
I was a **[G]** victim of the great compro-**[C]**mise **[F]/[C]/[F]/**
[C]/[C]

Well we'd **[C]** go out on Saturday evenings **[C]**
To the **[F]** drive-in on Route Fourty-**[C]**one **[C]**
And it was **[G]** there, that I first suspected **[G]**
That she was **[F]** doin' what she'd already **[C]** done **[F]/[C]/[C]**

She said **[C]** "Johnny won't you get me some popcorn" **[C]**
And she **[F]** knew I had to walk pretty **[C]** far **[C]**
And as **[G]** soon as I passed through the moonlight **[G]**
She hopped **[F]** into a foreign sports **[C]** car **[C]**

CHORUS:
I used to **[C]** sleep at the foot of Old Glory **[C]**
And a-**[F]**waken at dawn's early **[C]** light **[C]**
But much **[F]** to my surprise when I **[C]** opened my eyes
I was a **[G]** victim of the great compro-**[C]**mise **[F]/[C]/[F]/**
[C]/[C]/[C]/[C]

Well you **[C]** know, I could'a beat up that fella **[C]/[C]**
But it was **[F]** her that had hopped into his **[C]** car **[C]**
And many **[G]** times, I'd fought to protect her **[G]/[G]**
But **[F]** this time she was goin' too **[C]** far **[F]/[C]/[C]**

Now **[C]** some folks they call me a coward **[C]/[C]**
'Cause I **[F]** left her at the drive-in that **[C]** night **[C]**
But I'd **[G]** druther have names thrown at me **[G]/[G]**
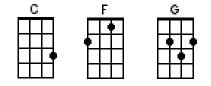Than to **[F]** fight for a thing that ain't right **[C]/[C]**

CHORUS:
I used to **[C]** sleep at the foot of Old Glory **[C]**
And a-**[F]**waken at dawn's early **[C]** light **[C]**
But much **[F]** to my surprise when I **[C]** opened my eyes
I was a **[G]** victim of the great compro-**[C]**mise **[F]/[C]/[F]/**
[C]/[C]/[C]/[C]

Well she **[C]** writes all the fellas love letters **[C]**
Sayin' **[F]** "greetings come and see me real **[C]** soon" **[C]**
And they **[G]** go and line up in the bar-room **[G]**
To spend a **[F]** night in that sick woman's **[C]** room **[F]/[C]/[C]**

Well **[C]** sometimes I get awful lonesome **[C]**
And I **[F]** wish she was my girl in-**[C]**stead **[C]**
But **[G]** she won't let me live with her **[G]**
And she **[F]** makes me live in my **[C]** head **[C]**

CHORUS:
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