

Steel Rail Blues

Gordon Lightfoot 1966

INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 / [G] / [G] / [G] / [G]

Well I [G] got my mail, late last night
A [G] letter from a girl who [G7] found the time to [C] write
To her [C] lonesome boy, somewhere's in the [G] night
She [C] sent me a railroad ticket too
To [C] take me to her lovin' [G] arms
And the big steel [Em] rail gonna carry me [D7] home
To the one I [G] love [Bm] / [Em][D7] /
[G][Bm] / [Em][D7]

Well I [G] been out here, many long days
I [G] haven't found a place that [G7] I could call my [C] own
Not a [C] two-bit bed, to lay my body [G] on
I [C] been stood up, I been shook down
I been [C] dragged into the [G] sand
And the big steel [Em] rail gonna carry me [D7] home
To the one I [G] love [Bm] / [Em][D7] /

CHORUS:

[C] Oooo [Bm] oooo [Em] ooo oo-oo-[G]oooo-[G]ooo
[C] Oo [Bm] oo [Em] oo [D7] oo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G]

Well I [G] been up tight, most every night
[G] Walkin' along the [G7] streets of this old [C] town
Not a [C] friend around, to tell my troubles [G] to
My [C] good old car, she done broke down
'Cause I [C] drove it into the [G] ground
And the big steel [Em] rail gonna carry me [D7] home
To the one I [G] love [Bm] / [Em][D7]

Well I [G] look over yonder across the plain
The [G] big drive wheels a-[G7]poundin' along the [C] ground
Gonna [C] get on board, and I'll be homeward [G] bound
Now [C] I ain't had a home-cooked meal
And [C] Lord I need one [G] now
And the big steel [Em] rail gonna carry me [D7] home
To the one I [G] love [Bm] / [Em][D7] /

CHORUS:

[C] Oooo [Bm] oooo [Em] ooo oo-oo-[G]oooo-[G]ooo
[C] Oo [Bm] oo [Em] oo [D7] oo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G]

Now [G] here I am, with my hat in my hand
[G] Standin' on the broad high-[G7]way, will you give a [C] ride
To a [C] lonesome boy, who missed the train last [G] night
I [C] went in town, for one last round
And I [C] gambled my ticket a-[G]way
And the big steel [Em] rail won't carry me [D7] home
To the one I [G] love [Bm] / [Em][D7] /

CHORUS:

[C] Oooo [Bm] oooo [Em] ooo oo-oo-[G]oooo-[G]ooo
[C] Oo [Bm] oo [Em] oo [D7] oo [G] oooo [G7] oooo

[C] Oooo [Bm] oooo [Em] ooo oo-oo-[G]oooo-[G]ooo
[C] Oo [Bm] oo [Em] oo [D7] oo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G] oooo [G]↓

