



Steamboat Whistle Blues Chords by John Hartford

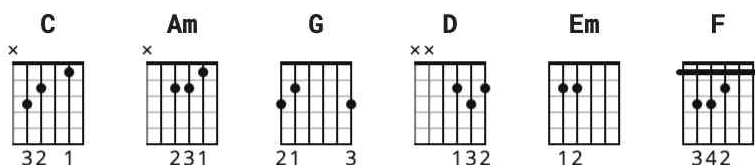
Description: This is very similar to the original version, but with typos fixed.

Difficulty: beginner

Tuning: E A D G B E

Key: C

CHORDS



[Verse 1]

C **Am**
 Well I started out to be a towboat man
G **C**
 But I never got the hang of a ratchet bar
C **Am**
 I was a -growin up a-deckin in the Illinois trade
D **G**
 with coal dust in my ear
C **Em**
 I got stuck in the ice on Christmas Eve
F **G**
 And I froze my ass it's true
C **Am**
 Just a shiv'rin and a-shakin with a Down South case of them
G **C**
 Steamboat whistle blues
C **Em** **F** **G**
 Oh Captain Way I'm sorry, my hat is off to you
C **Am**
 You've been a-hanging out by the old cook stove
G **C**
 With the steamboat whistle blues

C Am G C C Am D G C Em F G C Am G C C

[Verse 2]

C **Am**
 Well way up North I called your phone
G **C**
 But I didn't get no one to answer
C **Am**
 So I opened up the window and I smoked a little bit
D **G**
 And I watched the cars go by
C **Em**
 I'm gonna hunt you up and ask you
F **G**
 If you found out anything new
C **Am**
 Or are you a-hangin to the best you had
G **C**
 With the steamboat whistle blues
C **Em**
 I've been right here since nine o'clock
F **G**
 And believe you me that's true
C **Am** **G**
 Just a-lookin at the waterways journal with the steamboat whistle
C
 blues

C Am G C C Am D G C Em F G C Am G C C

[Verse 3]

C **Am**
 Well the city's growing up where it looks all square
G **C**
 Like a crossword puzzle on the landscape
C **Am**
 It looks like an electric shaver now
D **G**
 Where the courthouse used to be
C **Em**
 The grass is all synthetic
F **G**
 And we don't know for sure about the food
C **Am** **G** **C**
 The only thing we know for sure is them steamboat whistle blues

C **Em** **F** **G**
I'd sit and watch my TV if I thought I could trust the news
C **Am**
About the only thing I trust these days
G **C**
Is them steamboat whistle blues

C Am G C C Am D G C Em F G C Am G C C

[Verse 4]

C **Am**
Well "far out" Johnny well I heard him say
G **C**
As he stretched out back on the water bed
C **Am**
Bluegrass music is a thing of the past
D **G**
And the same for rock and roll
C **Em**
And I loaned him two or three dollars
F **G**
And he gave me the latest news
C **Am**
And he left me here with a Rolling Stone
G **C**
And the steamboat whistle blues
C **Em** **F** **G**
I'll tear off down the river some day before I'm through
C **Am**
Then come back here and see it out
G **C**
With the steamboat whistle blues

C Em F G C Am G C C