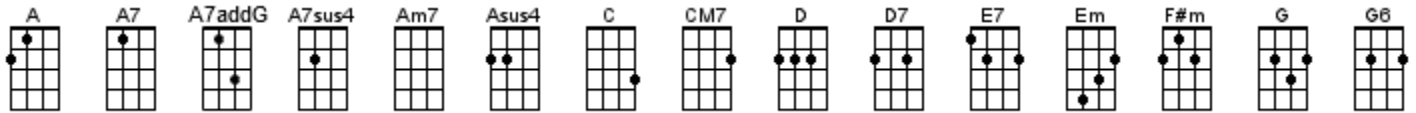


Canadian Railroad Trilogy

Gordon Lightfoot 1967



INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 / [D] / [Am7] / [D] / [Am7]

There [D] was a time in [G] this fair land
When the [D] railroad did not [D] run [D]
When the [F#m] wild majestic [G] mountains
Stood a-[G6]lone against the [A] sun / [Asus4][A] /
[D] Long before the [G] white man, and [D] long before the [D] wheel [D]
When the [D] green, dark [A] forest
Was too [C] silent to be [D] real / [Am7] / [D] / [Am7] / [D] / [D]

But [D] time has no be-[G]ginnings
And the [D] history has no [D] bounds [D]
As [F#m] to this verdant [G] country
They [G6] came from all a-[A]round / [Asus4][A]
They [D] sailed upon her [G] waterways
And they [D] walked the forests [D] tall [D]
Built the [D] mines, mills and the [A] factories
For the [C] good of us [D] all / [Am7] / [D] / [Am7] / [D] / [D]

And [D] when the young man's [G] fancy
Was [D] turnin' to the [D] spring [D]
The [F#m] railroad men grew [G] restless
For to [G6] hear the hammers [Asus4] ring [A]
Their [D] minds were over-[G]flowing
With the [D] visions of their [D] day [D]
And [D] many a fortune [A] lost and won
And [C] many a debt to [D] pay [D] / [D] / [D]↓ for they / **< 4/4 TIME >**

[A] Looked in the future and [Em] what did they see
They saw an [C] iron road runnin' from the [D] sea to the sea
[A] Bringin' the goods to a [Em] young growin' land
All [C] up from the seaports and [D] into their hands [D]

Look a-[Am7]way, said [D] they
A-[Am7]cross this mighty [D] land
From the [Am7] eastern [D] shore
To the [Am7] western [D] strand

[A] Bring in the workers, and [Em] bring up the rails
We gotta [C] lay down the tracks, and [D] tear up the trails
[A] Open her heart, let the [Em] life blood flow
Gotta [C] get on our way, 'cause we're [D] movin' too slow

[A] Bring in the workers, and [Em] bring up the rails
We're gonna [C] lay down tracks, and [D] tear up the trails
[A] Open her heart, let the [Em] life blood flow
Gotta [C] get on our way, 'cause we're [D] movin' too slow
[C] Get on our way, 'cause we're [Asus4] movin' too slow

[Asus4] / [Asus4] / < SLOW 3/4 TIME > [Asus4]↓ 2 3 / [A7addG]↓ 2 3 /

Be-[D]hind the blue [D] Rockies, the [G] sun is de-[A7sus4]clining
[D] The stars they come [G] stealing at the [E7] close of the [A] day [A7]
[D] Across the wide [D] prairie, our [G] loved ones lie [A7sus4] sleeping
[D] Beyond the dark [G] oceans in a [A] place far a-[D]way [D]

[D7] We are the [D7] navvies who [G] work upon the [A7sus4] railway
[D] Swingin' our [G] hammers in the [E7] bright blazin' [A] sun [A]
[D] Livin' on [D] stew, and [G] drinkin' bad [A7sus4] whiskey
[D] Bendin' our [G] backs 'til the [A7sus4] long days are [D] done [D]

[D7] We are the [D7] navvies who [G] work upon the [A7sus4] railway
[D] Swingin' our [G] hammers in the [E7] bright blazin' [A] sun [A]
[D] Layin' down [D] track and [G] buildin' the [A7sus4] bridges
[D] Bendin' our [G] backs 'til the [A7sus4]↓ railroad [A7]↓ ...is < 4/4 TIME >

[D] done / [Am7] / [D] / [Am7] / [D] / [D]

So [A] over the mountains, and [Em] over the plains
[C] Into the muskeg, and [D] into the rain
[A] Up the St. Lawrence, all the [Em] way to Gaspé
[C] Swingin' our hammers, and [D] drawin' our pay
[A] Layin' 'em in, and [Em] tyin' 'em down
A-[C]way to the bunkhouse, and [D] into the town
A [A] dollar a day, and a [Em] place for my head
A [C] drink to the livin', a [A] toast to the dead / [A][A7] Oh the /

[D] Song of the [Am7] future has been [D] sung
All the [Am7] battles have been [D] won
On the [Am7] mountain tops we [D] stand
All the [Am7] world at our com-[D]mand
We have [Am7] opened up the [D] soil
With our [Am7]↓ teardrops... and our / < 2/4 TIME > [A7sus4] toils /

[A7sus4] / [A7sus4] / [A7sus4]

Oh there [D] was a time in [G] this fair land
When the [D] railroad did not [D] run [D]
When the [F#m] wild majestic [G] mountains
Stood a-[G6]lone against the [A] sun / [Asus4][A] /
[D] Long before the [G] white man and [D] long before the [D] wheel [D]
When the [D] green, dark [A] forest was too [C] silent to be [D] real [D]
When the [D] green, dark [A] forest was too [C] silent to be [D] real [D]
And [D] many are the [A]↓ dead men < 2 / 1 2 >
Too [C] silent / [C] / [Cmaj7] / [Cmaj7]
To be [D] real / [Am7] / [D] / [Am7] / [D]↓

