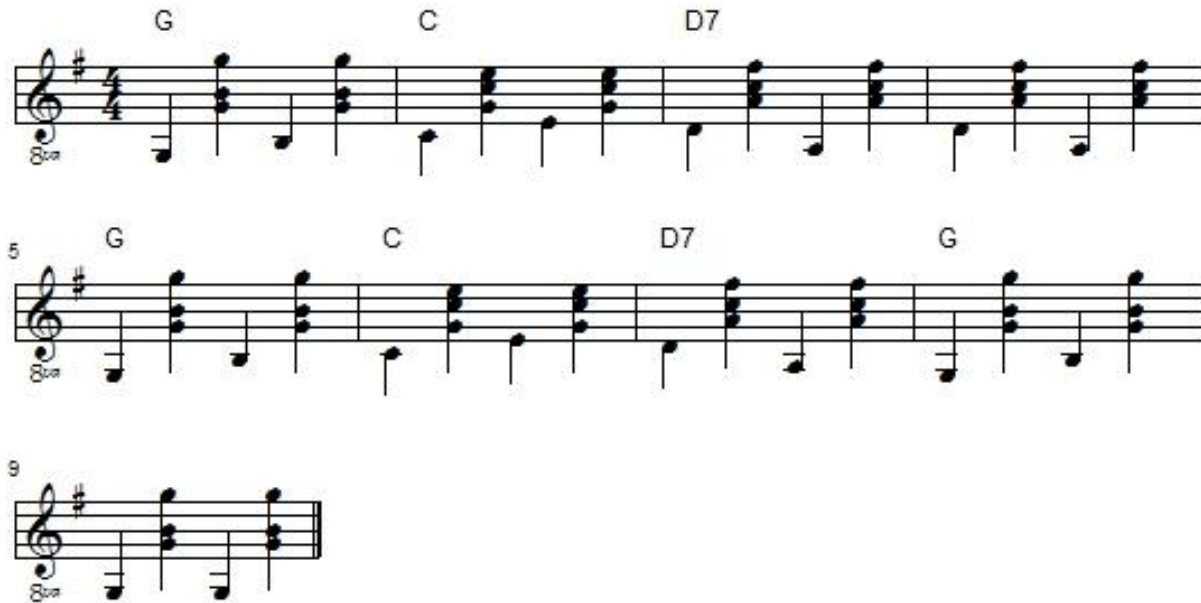


Talking Blues

Woody Guthrie



1. If you want to get to heaven, let me tell you what to do,
You gotta grease your feet in a little mutton stew.
Slide right out of the devil's hand,
And ease over to the Promised Land.
Take it easy!
Go greasy!
2. Standing in the corner by the mantel piece
Up in the corner by a bucket of grease
I stuck my foot in that bucket of grease
And go a slipping up and down the mantel piece
Hunting matches. Cigarette stubs.
Shortage on.
3. I was down in the holler just a'settin' on a log,
My finger on the trigger and my eye on a hog;
I pulled that trigger and the gun said "go!"
The shot fell over in Mexico
'Course I can't eat hog eyes,
but I love chitlins.
4. Down in the hen house on my knees,
I thought I heard a chicken sneeze,
But it was only the rooster sayin' his prayers
Thankin' the Lord for the hens upstairs.
Rooster prayin', hens a-layin',
Pore little pullets just pluggin' away best they know how.

5. I got a gal just over the hill
She won't kiss like her sister will
Never takes a bath not even a rub
'Fraid she'll slide through the hole in the tub.
S'awful skinny. Bony.
Cut a man like a razor.
6. Lots of folks tell you that a preacher won't steal
But I caught three down in my corn field
One had a bushel and the other had a peck
The other'n had a great long cotton sack
Half full or fuller. Roasting ears.
He's stealing.
7. Mama's in the kitchen fixin' the yeast,
Poppa's in the bedroom greasin' his feets
Sister's in the cellar squeezin' up the hops,
Brother's at the window just a-watchin' for the cops.
Drinkin' home brew
Makes you happy.
8. Now, I'm just a city dude a-livin' out of town.
Everybody knows me as Moonshine Brown;
I make the beer and I drink the slop,
Got nine little orphans that call me Pop.
I'm patriotic...raisin' soldiers
And Red cross nurses.
9. Ain't no use me workin' so hard,
I got a gal in the rich folks' yard.
They kill a chicken, she sends me the head.
She thinks I'm workin', I'm a-layin' up in bed.
Havin' a good time.
Just dreamin' about her and two other women.

Woody Guthrie put together this collection of traditional verses.

In classic talking blues style, you run through the chord progression on the guitar while reciting the lyrics. Since there is really no key involved, you can play the chord progression in any key. I prefer G because the bass works well with both the G and C chords.