

Gentle On My Mind

Written by John Hartford

Key of C

Intro

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 |

Verse 1

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

It's knowing that your door is always open and your path is free to walk,

| Dm | Dm+7 | Dm7 | G7 | C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

That makes me tend to leave my sleeping bag rolled up and stashed behind your couch.

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

And it's knowing I'm not shackled by for- gotten words and bonds

| C6 | C | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

and the ink stains that have dried upon some line.

| Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7 | G7sus4 | G7 | C

That keeps you in the backroads, by the rivers of my memory, that keeps you ever, gentle on my mind.

| Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

Verse 2

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

It's not clinging to the rocks and ivy planted on the columns now that binds me,

| Dm | Dm+7 | Dm7 | G7 | C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

Or something that somebody said, be- cause they thought we fit together, walkin'.

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

It's just knowing that the world will not be cursin' or for- givin'

| C6 | C | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

When I walk along some railroad track and find

| Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7 | G7sus4 | G7 | C

That you're moving on the backroads, by the rivers of my memory, for hours, you're just gentle on my mind.

| Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

Verse 3

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

Though the wheat fields, & the clothes lines, & the junkyards, & the highways come be- tween us.

| Dm | Dm+7 | Dm7 | G7 | C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

Some other woman crying to her mother, cause she turned and I was gone.

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

I still might run in silence, tears of joy might stain my face

| C6 | C | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

and summer sun might burn me till I'm blind

| Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7 | G7sus4 | G7 | C

But not to where I cannot see you walkin' on the backroads, by the rivers flowing gentle on my mind.

| Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

Verse 4

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

I dip my cup of soup back from the gurglin' cracklin' caldron in some train yard,

| Dm | Dm+7 | Dm7 | G7 | C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

My beard a roughening coalpile and a dirty hat pulled low across my face,

| C | Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7 | Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7

through cupped hands 'round a tin can, I pre- tend I hold you to my breast and find.

| Dm | Dm7 | Dm6 | Dm7 | G7sus4 | G7 | C

That you're movin from the backroads, by the rivers of my memory, ever smilin' ever gentle on my mind.

| Cmaj7 | C6 | Cmaj7

