

# Gentle On My Mind

John Hartford

Key of C

Intro: Chords for first verse

**C** **Em** **C** **Em** **Dm**  
It's knowin' that your door is always open and your path is free to walk

That makes me tend to leave my sleepin' bag rolled up  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
And stashed behind your couch

**C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
And it's knowin' I'm not shackled by forgotten words and bonds  
**C** **Em** **Dm**  
And the ink stains that have dried upon some lines

That keeps you in the back roads by the rivers of my mem'ry  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
And keeps you ever gentle on my mind

**C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
It's not clingin' to the rocks and ivy planted on their columns now  
**Dm**  
That binds me, or somethin' that somebody said  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
Because they thought we fit together walkin'

**C** **Em**  
It's just knowin' that the world will not be cursin' or forgivin'  
**C** **Em** **Dm**  
When I walk along some railroad track and find

That you're movin' on the back roads by the rivers of my mem'ry  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
And for hours you're just gentle on my mind

**C** **Em** **C**  
Though the wheat fields and the coal mines and the junkyards  
**Em** **Dm**  
And the highways come between us, and some other woman cryin'  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
To her mother 'cause she turned and I was gone

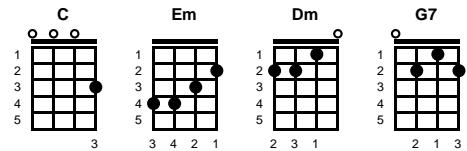
**C** **Em** **C**  
I still might run in silence, tears of joy might stain my face  
**Em** **Dm**  
And the summer sun might burn me till I'm blind

But not to where I cannot see you walkin' on the backroads  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
By the rivers flowin' gentle on my mind

**C** **Em** **C**  
I dip my cup of soup back from the gurglin',  
**Em** **Dm**  
Cracklin' cauldron in some train yard, my beard a roughenin' coal pile  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C** **Em**  
And a dirty hat pulled low across my face

**C** **Em**  
Through cupped hands 'round a tin can  
**C** **Em** **Dm**  
I pretend to hold you to my breast and find  
That you're wavin' from the back roads by the rivers of my mem'ry  
**G7** **C** **Em** **C**  
Ever smilin', ever gentle on my mind

## STANDARD



## BARITONE

