

Ol' Man River

by Oscar Hammerstein and Jerome Kern (from *Showboat*, 1962)

C C C F C C C Am G
 Colored folks work 'long the Mississippi, Colored folks work while de white folk play.
 C C C F C Am7 D7(½) G7(½) C
 Pullin' dose boats from de dawn till sunset, gittin' no rest till de judgment day.

Em Am6 Em Am6 Em Am6 Em Am6
 Don't look up an' don't look down, you don't dast make de white boss frown.
 Em Cdim7 Em Cdim7 Em F#m7 Em Dm7(½) G7(½)
 Bend yo' knees and bow yo' head, and pull dat rope until yo're dead.

C7 C7 C7 F A7 A7 A7 Dm
 Let me go 'way from de Mississippi, let me go 'way from de white men boss.
 F#dim7 F#dim7 F#dim7 C Bb7 Bb7 G7 C
 G7 G7
 Show me dat stream called de River Jordan, dat's the old stream dat I long to cross.

C Am C F C F C Am
 Ol' Man River, dat Ol' Man River, he must know sump-in' but don't say nothin',
 G G7 Dm7 G7 C Dm7 C C
 he jus' keeps rollin', he keeps on rollin' along.
 C Am C F C Am C Cdim7
 He don't plant 'taters, and he don't plant cotton, and dem dat plants 'em, are soon forgotten
 G7 Dm7 Dm7 G7 C F C Am--B7
 But Ol' Man River, he jus' keeps rollin' along.

Em B7 Em B7 Em6 Cdim7 Em B7
 You an' me, we sweat an' strain, body all achin' an' racked wid pain.
 Em Cdim7 Em Cdim7 Em Cdim7 Em Dm(½) G7(½)
 "Tote dat barge" an' "lift dat bale", you get a little drunk an' you lands in jail.

C Am C F C G7 Am D7
 Ah gits weary, an' sick of tryin', ah'm tired of livin', an' skeered of dyin',
 C Am Dm7 G7 C Fm C Dm7(½) G7(½)
 but Ol' Man River, he jus' keeps rollin' along.
 C Am Dm7 G7 C F G7 C
 but Ol' Man River, he jus' keeps rollin' along.