

**Downbound Train**  
**Chuck Berry**

\_\_Downbound Train\_\_

This song is relatively easy, play **Gm** throughout the whole song hammering on and off on

A and D strings. You could also strum **Dm** and go Back to **Gm** if you think it sounds better.

Since this is pretty much a one chord song, it might be easier to play if you put a capo

the second fret and play Em instead of playing **Gm**.

\_\_Lyrics:\_\_

A stranger lying on a bar room floor  
Had drank so much he could drink no more,  
So he fell asleep with a troubled brain  
To dream that he rode on that down bound train.

The engine with blood was sweaty and damp  
And brilliantly lit with a brimstone lamp,  
And imps for fuel were shovelling bones  
While the furnace rang with a thousand groans.

The boiler was filled with lager beer  
The devil himself was the engineer,

The passengers were most a motley crew,  
Some were foreigners and others he knew.  
Rich men in broadcloth, beggars in rags  
Handsome young ladies and wicked old hags.

As the train rushed on at a terrible pace  
Sulphuric fumes scorched their hands and face,  
Wider and wider the country grew  
Faster and faster the engine flew,  
Louder and louder the thunder crashed

Brighter and brighter the lighting flashed,

Hotter and hotter the air became  
Till their clothes were burned  
and they were screaming with pain.  
Then out of the distance there came a yell  
Ha ha said the devil we re nearing home,

Oh how the passengers shrieked with pain

And begged old Satan to stop that train.

The stranger awoke with an anguished cry  
His clothes wet with sweat and his hair standing high,  
He fell on his knees on the bar room floor  
And prayed a prayer like never before.

And the prayers and vows were not in vain  
For he never rode that down bound train.