

## Gentle on My Mind

John Hartford

INTRO: C Cmaj7 C6 Cmaj7

C Cmaj7  
It's knowing that your door is always  
C6 Cmaj7 Dm Dmmaj7 Dm7 Dmmaj7  
open and your path is free to walk  
Dm Dmmaj  
that makes me tend to leave my sleeping  
Dm7 G7 C Cmaj7 C9 C  
bag rolled up and stashed behind your couch  
C Cmaj7 C6  
And it's knowing I'm not shackled by forgotten words and  
Cmaj7 C Cmaj7 Dm Dmmaj7 Dm7 Dmmaj7  
bonds and the ink stains that have dried upon some line  
Dm Dmmaj7  
That keeps you in the backroads by the  
Dm7 G7 Dm  
rivers of my mem'ry, that keeps you ever  
G7 C Cmaj7 C9 C  
gentle on my mind

It's not clinging to the rocks and ivy  
Planted on their columns now that bind me  
Or something that somebody said  
Because they think we fit together walkin'.  
It's just knowing that the world will not be cursing or  
Forgiving, when I walk along some railroad track and find  
That you're moving on the backroads by the  
Rivers of my mem'ry, and for hours you're just  
Gentle on my mind

Though the wheat fields and the clothes lines and the  
Junkyards and the highways come between us,  
And some other woman crying to her  
Mother, 'cause she turned and I was gone.  
I still might run in silence, tears of joy might stain my  
Face, and the summer sun might burn be 'till I'm blind,  
But not to where I cannot see you  
Walkin' on the backroads, by the rivers flowing  
Gentle on my mind

I dip my cup of soup back from the  
Gurglin', cracklin' cauldron in some trainyard;  
My beard a roughning coal pile and a  
Dirty had pulled low across my face.  
Through cupped hands 'round a tin can I  
Pretend I hold you to my breast and find  
That you're waving from the backroads by the  
Rivers of my memory, ever smilin' ever  
Gentle on my mind.

C: x32010  
Cmaj7: x32000

C6: x322x0 (I use the finger on the G string to mute the B string.  
C9: x32030 It makes for a faster change between the Cmaj7 and  
C6)  
Dm: xx0231  
Dmmaj7:xx0221  
Dm7: xx0211  
G7: 320001