

September-2-2025

bpm=180

Johnny Cash 1953

FOLSOM PRISON BLUES

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"UD" = big UP-DOWN, then very light little up-downs "ududud" (= "ah-one, ah-two, ah-three, ah-four")

Open riff = (string #2) 3-3-3 (string #1) 2-2-2 (string #2) 3-1-0

C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud

1 2 3 4 _ _ _ I hear that train a com in' it's roll in' 'round the bend and

C UD ududud C UD ududud C7 UD ududud C7 UD ududud F D dududu

I ain't seen the sun shine since I don't know when I'm stuck in Fol som

F D dududu F7 D dududu F7 D dududu C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud C UD ududud

Pri son and time keeps drag in' on but that

G7 D d d d G7 D d d d G D d d d G D d d d C UD ududud C UD ududud

Train keeps a roll in' on down to San An tone when

C UD ududud / / /

I was just a ba by my ma ma told me son

C / C7 /

Al ways be a good boy don't ev er play with guns but I

F D dududu F F7 F7 C UD ududud / / /

Shot a man in Re no just to watch him die when I

G7 D d d d G7 D d d d G D d d d G D d d d C UD ududud / / /

Hear that whis tle blow in' I hang my head and cry well I

C UD ududud / / /

Bet there's rich folks eat in' in a fan cy dine in' car they're

C / C7 / F D dududu

Prob 'ly drin kin' cof fee and smo kin' big ci gars well I knew I had it

F F7 F7 C UD ududud / / / G7 D d d d

Com in' I know I can't be free 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 but those people keep a

G7 D d d d G D d d d G D d d d C UD ududud / / /

Mo vin' and that's what tor tures me 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 if they

ALL Down-Ups

C du du du du C C C

Freed me from this pri son if that rail road train was mine I

C C C7 C7

Bet I'd move it on a lit tle far ther down the line

F F F7 F7 C C C C

Far from Fol som Pri son that's where I want to stay and I'd

G7 G7 G G C C C C1

Let that lone some whis tle blow my blues a way 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1