**CITY BLUES**

Written 1973 and arranged 1976 by Andy Barber (partially revised 2021)

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A… D. A. G. C G C D. A. A… D. A. G. C G C D. A. B… D… A… B. B. B… D… A… B. B. B.

VERSE 1

A D A

I was looking for my answers, but the question wasn’t known;

G C G C D A

While the simpletons were saying that their minds were never blown.

A D A G C G C D A

The money was given to the businessmen on loan; but the boss said that he’d have to change the subject.

The general was livid from a foreign pressure play, he told his staff to wait till he remembered what to say.

I couldn’t wait that long because the night had made the day, though they said the town was closed to the public.

CHORUS

B D

Well the city blues have got me and I’ve got no place to turn;

A B B

So I’ll sit inside the bathroom till the court has been adjourned;

B D

While folks are outside laughing since there’s nothing left to learn.

A B B

They’re all afraid of dying ‘cause they know they’re gonna burn.

VERSE 2

I asked why time was made a factor if it wasn’t real; they scorned me and they stoned me, and cooked a big ordeal;

But even Christ when He was down decided He would kneel; when they said “look up” His answer was “you’ll find it”.

Senators swam deep in mud as things were getting hot. They eased their minds by saying they’d recall what they forgot.

As their ship was slowly sinking, they convinced me it was not. And the president got smashed before he signed it.

REPEAT CHORUS

INTERLUDE:

G D A G# G

You can catch the city blues when there’s nothing but bad news

G D D C A G D A G# G D B

I contemplate their views as I choke it down with booze. I have long since paid my dues, so what have I got to lose?

VERSE 3

I was walking down the street and saw a little girl molested; I brought her to a cop to say most surely, they had jested.

The cop pulled out his gun and said that we were both arrested; then he snuck her in the alley to assault her.

When “hello” sounds louder than “goodbye” the woods will be behind us;

But some fool is always lurking there who leaps up to remind us.

Politicians tell the world they know that they will find us; but today I will not lay upon the altar.

BREAK: G… C. G. F. B*b* F B*b* C. G. G… C. G. F. B*b* F B*b* C. G. D A.. C G.. D A.. C G.. D A.. C G.. D A.. C G..

INTERLUDE

You can catch the city blues when they’re tightening the screws.

You may think it’s just a ruse, up until they light the fuse. So I’ve donned my running shoes; gonna beat these city blues.

VERSE 4

I might as well forget it, now I’ve smoked my only pipe; thrown into the grinder ‘cause they think I’m turning ripe.

People still are saying that they don’t think they’re the type, then they close their eyes to hear the hurdy-gurdy.

Is freedom so important that I mustn’t bend the rules? Should I find a place to live where I may walk among the fools?

Could I build the house of Congress without using fascist tools, or just let my mind explode before I’m thirty?

REPEAT CHORUS (instrumental) then repeat and fade: E B.. D A... E B.. D A…