JESUS THE MISSING YEARS

John Prine

Intro: and - Play this pattern throughout the song
[C]     [F]     [G]     [C]

IT WAS RAINING. IT WAS COLD
WEST BETHLEHEM WAS NO PLACE FOR A TWELVE YEAR OLD
SO HE PACKED HIS BAGS AND HE HEADED OUT
TO FIND OUT WHAT THE WORLD'S ABOUT
HE WENT TO FRANCE. HE WENT TO SPAIN
HE FOUND LOVE. HE FOUND PAIN.
HE FOUND STORES SO HE STARTED TO SHOP
BUT HE HAD NO MONEY SO HE GOT IN TROUBLE WITH A COP

KIDS IN TROUBLE WITH THE COPS
FROM ISRAEL DIDN'T HAVE NO HOME
SO HE CUT HIS HAIR AND MOVED TO ROME
IT WAS THERE HE MET HIS IRISH BRIDE
AND THEY RENTED A FLAT ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE OF ROME...
ITALY THAT IS
MUSIC PUBLISHERS, BOOK BINDERS, BIBLE BELTERS, MONEY CHANGERS,
SPOON BENDERS AND LOTS OF PRETTY ITALIAN CHICKS.

C                            F
CHARLEY BOUGHT SOME POPCORN; BILLY BOUGHT A CAR
G
SOMEONE ALMOST BOUGHT THE FARM BUT THEY DIDN'T GO THAT FAR
C                   C        F
THINGS SHUT DOWN AT MIDNIGHT AT LEAST AROUND HERE THEY DO
G
'CAUSE WE ALL RESIDE DOWN THE BLOCK, INSIDE AT ....23 SKIDOO.

WINE WAS FLOWING SO WERE BEERS
SO JESUS FOUND HIS MISSING YEARS
SO HE WENT TO A DANCE AND SAID "THIS DON'T MOVE ME"
HE HIked UP HIS PANTS AND HE WENT TO A MOVIE
ON HIS THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY HE SAW "REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE"
HE WENT STRAIGHT ON HOME AND INVENTED SANTA CLAUS
WHO GAVE HIM A GIFT AND HE RESPONDED IN KIND
HE GAVE THE GIFT OF LOVE AND WENT OUT OF HIS MIND

YOU SEE HIM AND THE WIFE WASN'T GETTING ALONG
SO HE TOOK OUT HIS GUITAR AND HE WROTE A SONG
CALLED "THE DOVE OF LOVE FELL OFF THE PERCH"
BUT HE COULDN'T GET DIVORCED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
AT LEAST NOT BACK THEN ANYHOW
JESUS WAS A GOOD GUY HE DIDN'T NEED THIS SHIT
SO HE TOOK A PILL WITH A BAG OF PEANUTS AND
A COCA-COLA AND HE SWALLOWED IT.
HE DISCOVERED THE BEATLES
AND HE RECORDED WITH THE STONES
ONCE HE EVEN OPENED UP A THREE-WAY PACKAGE
IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR OLD GEORGE JONES

C                            F
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