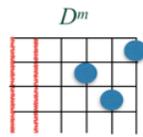


# Can't Help But Wonder Where I'm Bound

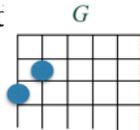
Words & Music by Tom Paxton © 1964 all rights reserved

*C*  
It's a long and a dusty road,  
*F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
A hot and a heavy load.  
*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
The folks I meet ain't always kind.



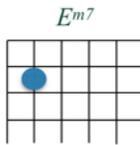
*C*  
Some are bad, some are good,  
*C F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
Some have done the best they could.

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
Some have tried to ease my troublin' minc



## CHORUS

*C D<sup>m</sup> G G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And I can't help but wonder where I'm bound;  
*C E<sup>m7</sup> A<sup>m</sup>*  
Where I'm bound.  
*D<sup>m</sup> G G<sup>7</sup> C*  
Can't help but wonder where I'm bound.



*C*  
I've been wanderin' through this land,  
*F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
Doin' the best I can;

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
Tryin' to find what I was meant to do.

*C*  
And the people that I see,  
*C F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
Look as worried as can be,

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And it looks like they are wonderin' too.

## CHORUS

*C*  
Now I had a little girl one time,  
*F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
She had lips like sherry wine,

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And she loved me till my head went plumb insane.

*C*  
But I was too blind to see,  
*C F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
She was driftin' away from me.

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And my good gal went off on a morning train.

## CHORUS

*C*  
I had a buddy way back home,

*F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
But he started out to roam,

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And I hear he's out by Frisco Bay.

*C*  
And sometimes when I've had a few,

*C F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
His old voice comes a-ring- in' through,

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And I'm goin' out to see him some old day.

## CHORUS

*C*  
Well, if you see me passin' by,

*F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
And you sit and you wonder why,

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
And you wish that you were a Rambler too.

*C*  
Nail your shoes to the kitchen floor,

*C F E<sup>m</sup> D<sup>m</sup>*  
Lace 'em up and bar the door.

*F G<sup>7</sup> C*  
Thank your stars for the roof that's over you.

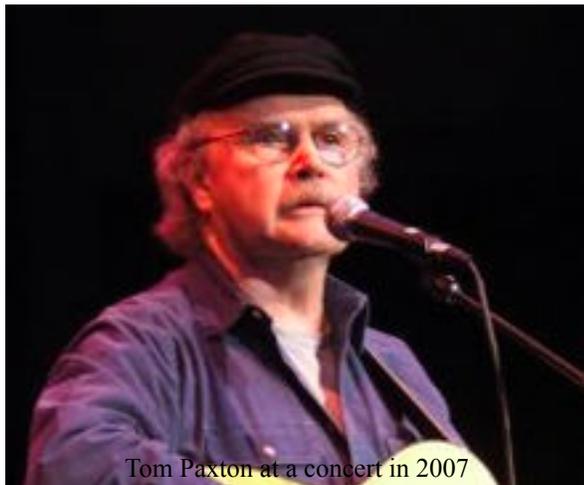
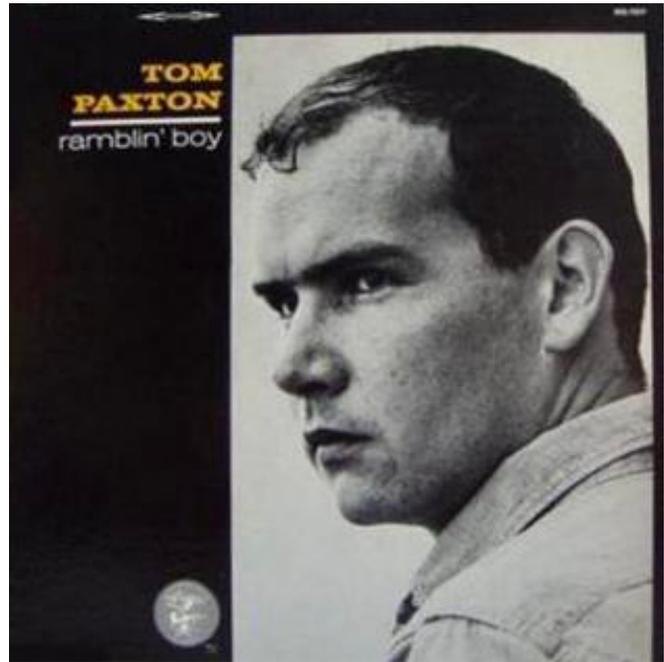
## CHORUS

# History

*Ramblin' Boy* is referred to as Paxton's debut album, since it was his first album released on a major record label Electra Records, although he had previously released a live album recorded at The Gaslight Cafe in Greenwich Village entitled, *I'm the Man That Built the Bridges* which was released on the small Gaslight label in 1962.

Three songs from *Ramblin' Boy* were frequently covered by other artists – the title song, **"I Can't Help But Wonder Where I'm Bound"** and

“The Last Thing on My Mind”. The latter song remains one of Paxton's most well-known compositions.



Music critic Steven Leggett of Allmusic commented in his review that the album sounds "rather dated these days" due to the topical issues of the songs. He also writes: "What keeps *Ramblin' Boy* from being just another period piece from the 1960s are a trio of songs in which Paxton swings away from trying to be relevant and brings a kind of restless and romantic self-analysis to the

table. 'The Last Thing on My Mind', 'Ramblin' Boy', and 'I Can't Help But Wonder Where I'm Bound' all exhibit a classic, timeless appeal simply because they work to the positive side of emotional ennui.

*Wikipedia*