

"On A Slow Boat To China" in the key of F [W & M by Frank Loesser, 1948]. Version 102413.

After first ending, return to the first line of the verse.

Conventions: N or N⁴ means chord N gets 4 beats, and N² means chord N gets 2 beats, etc.

Intro: F² Dm² Gm7² C7² [twice]

Gm7 = 0211

[verse]

F² F9² D7⁴ Gm7⁴ G#dim⁴

F9 = 2333, Gm7 = 0211, G#dim = 1212

I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

F⁴ A7⁴ Bb² D7² Gm⁴

Gm = 0231

all to my-self a-lone

Bb⁴ Bdim⁴ F² F9² D7⁴

Bdim = 1212, F9 = 2333

Get you and keep you in my arms e- ver more

G7⁴ G7⁴ Gm7² D9² C7⁴

Gm7 = 0211, D9 = 0111

Leave all the o-thers, waiting on the far away shore

F² F9² D7⁴ Gm7⁴ G#dim

F9 = 2333, Gm7 = 0211, G#dim = 1212

Out on the briny, with a moon big and shi-ny,

F⁴ A7⁴ Bb² D7² Gm⁴

Gm = 0231

melting your heart of stone

[after second time on the verse, go to second ending to finish the song]

[first ending]

Gm7⁴ D9⁴ F² F9² D7⁴

Gm7 = 0211, D9 = 0111, F9 = 2333

I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

G7⁴ C7² F² F#dim² C7⁴

F#dim = 2323

all to my-self a-lone

[back to the top]

[second ending]

Gm7⁴ D9⁴ F² F9² D7⁴

Gm7 = 0211, D9 = 0111, F9 = 2333

I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

G7⁴ C7⁴ F9⁴ D7⁴

F9 = 2333

all to my-self alone

G7⁴ C7⁴ F² Bb² F¹ C7¹ F¹

All to my-self a-lone.

Hear Bette Midler and Barry Manilow sing this in D at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49wLAmd2INs>

The Midler/Manilow version is cool and challenging. They start in D, go up Eb when they return to the top, but in the middle of the song, they go up and end in the key of E.