

On a Slow Boat to China – Frank Loesser (1947)

"I'd like to get you on a slow boat to China" was a well-known phrase among poker players, referring to a person who lost steadily and handsomely. Loesser turned it into a romantic song, placing the title in the mainstream of catch-phrases in 1947. A "slow boat to China" was the longest trip one could imagine, meaning anything that takes an extremely long time.

Add more cheese! The first line of the verses ends in an Abdim chord. To add a little more cheese, down-strum it twice, then slide the shape up to the 4th fret, then the 7th, then, with your fingers still in contact with the strings, slide it back down towards its original position and quickly switch to the F chord. Thanks to Fran Broughton of the Vermont Ukulele Society for this version!

Intro: **Gm7** **Eb7** **F** **D7**
 / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /

G7 **Gm7** **C7** **F**
 / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /

F **Am** **D7** **Gm** **Abdim (1-1-4-7)**
 I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

F **A7** **Bb** **D**
 All to myself, alone.

Gm **Abdim** **F** **D7**
 Get you and keep you in my arms evermore

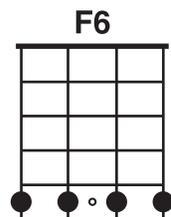
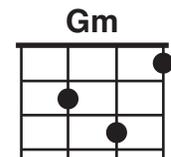
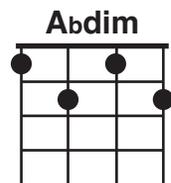
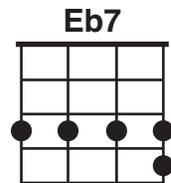
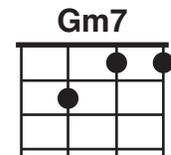
G7 **Gm7 [no strum** **] C7**
 Leave all your lovers weeping on a faraway shore

F **Am** **D7** **Gm** **Abdim (1-1-4-7)**
 Out on the briny, with the moon big and shiny,

F **A7** **Bb**
 Melting your heart of stone.

Gm7 **Eb7** **F** **D7**
 I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

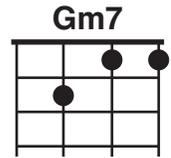
G7 **Gm7** **C7** **F**
 All to my - self, a - lone.



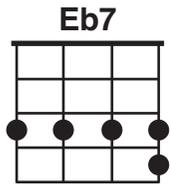
Interlude: **Gm7** **Eb7** **F** **D7**
 / / / / / / / / / / / / / /

G7 **Gm7** **C7** **F**
 / / / / / / / / / / / / / /

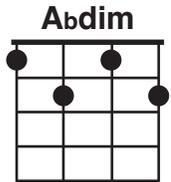
F **Am** **D7** **Gm** **Abdim** (1-1-4-7)
 I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,



F **A7** **Bb** **D**
 All to myself, alone.

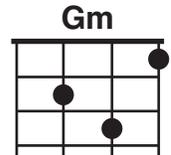


Gm **Abdim** **F** **D7**
 A twist in the rudder and a rip in the sail,



G7 **Gm7** [no strum] **C7**
 Drifting and dreaming, throw the compass over the rail.

F **Am** **D7** **Gm** **Abdim** (1-1-4-7)
 Out on the ocean, far from all the commotion,

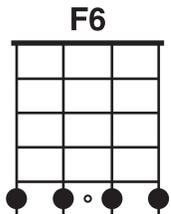


F **A7** **Bb**
 Melting your heart of stone.

Gm7 **Eb7** **F** **D7**
 I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,

G7 **Gm7** **C7** **F**
 All to my - self, a - lone. (Oh, Honey)

Gm7 **Eb7** **F** **D7**
 I'd love to get you on a slow boat to China,



G7 **Gm7** **C7** **F** **F6/**
 All to my - self..... a..... - lone.....