

Key: G

Clean Plate Yodel
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Calico Bluff, AR
1991

G C G C G Em D D7

Once upon a time when I was 4 or 5, we went to a chuckwagon show

G C G
Where the cowboys played and sang, they could play most anything

G/Gb Em D G
And they even cooked the beans, or so we're told

Well all that chuckwagon grub and that bass washtub, and that harmony singin' went just fine
But when ol' Slim would cock his head and he'd start yodelin' instead
It sounded better than that cowboy dinner chime

C G C D
Cause they told us all about the grub that we just ate, but by then it was much too late

G C G Em D G
They told us secret recipes I didn't wanna hear, as I stared down at my clean plate

They started with a tater, and knocked off all the loose dirt, and then they just boiled the tar out of that
Then they poured some river water through last week's coffee grounds
And they buttered the biscuits with the fat

But I almost lost my cookies over yesterday's baked beans, my head began to spin and my stomach hurt
That cowboy chef recycled them from somebody's leftovers
And re-seasoned them with cow manure and dirt

And I wish they hadn't told us 'bout what we just ate, cause by then, it was much too late
But I was only five, and if I wanted to hear them yodel, I was told I had to clean my plate

C C7 F (back to key: G)
Short Yodel - (key change to F) F Bb F C F ... F Bb F I wish I hadn't cleaned my plate

But the damage had been done when the time had finally come, for the cowboys to sing & play & yodel like that
An' I knew this was important cause my Mom had dressed me up, in my chaps and fringe and tiny cowboy hat

G C G Em C G D
But I was young and small, and I couldn't see at all but suddenly, I'm high above the crowd. . . (pause)

G (music pauses)
This cowboy help me up real high and said,
Ladies and gentlemen, right here's a full-grown Texan with all the hot air blowed out

Instrumental (Verse structure)

Yeah, that was quite a time . . (repeat first verse) . . . Yodel