Louisiana Man

Doug Kershaw

C  C  C  G7  C
\///  \///  \///  \///  \///

C

At birth mom and papa called the little boy Ned
C  G7  C
They raised him on the banks of the river-bed
C
A houseboat tied to a big tall tree
C  G7  C
A home for my papa and my mama and me

C

The clock strikes three, papa jumps to his feet
C  G7  C
Already mama’s cooking papa something to eat
C
At half past, papa he’s ready to go
C  G7  C
He hops in the pirogue headed down the bay-o-u

F
They got fishing lines strung across the Louisiana River
F  C  F
Gonna catch a big fish for us to eat
F
Setting traps in the swamp catching anything he can
F  C  F
Gotta make a living he’s a Louisiana man
F  C  F  G7
Gotta make a living he’s a Louisiana man

C
Muskrat hides a hanging by the dozen
C  G7  C
Even got a lady make a muskrat’s cousin
C
Got ‘em out drying in the hot, hot, sun
C  G7  C
Tomorrow papa’s gonna turn them into mon

C  G7  C
\///  \///  \///
C
They call my mama Rita and my daddy Jack
C       G7       C
A little baby brother on the floor, that’s Mac
C
Rynn and Lynn are the family twins
C       G7       C
Big brother Ed’s on the bayou fishing

C
On the river, floats - papa’s great big boat
C       G7       C
That’s how my papa goes in-to town
C
Takes every bit of a night and a day
C       G7       C
To even make a place where the people stay

F
I can hardly wait until tomorrow comes around
F           C       F
That’s the day my papa takes his furs to town
F
Papa promised me that I could go
F       C       F       G7
Even gonna see a cowboy show
       //       //       //

C
I see the cowboys and Indians for the first time then
C       G7       C
Told my papa gotta go a-gain
C
Papa said, “Son we got the lines to run.
C       G7       C
We’ll come back again, first there’s work to be done.”

F
He’s got fishing lines strung across the Louisiana River
F           C       F
Gotta catch a big fish for us to eat
F
Setting traps in the swamp catching anything he can
F           C       F
Gotta make a living he’s a Louisiana man
F       C       F       F       C       F
Gotta make a living he’s a Louisiana man // // //