

Charlie Ipcar, 12/24/15
Tune: after traditional *Roving Gambler*
Key: F(5/C)

Riverboat Gambler

C-----F---C
I am a riverboat gam-bler,

I've gambled all around,
-----G----C---F-----C
Whenever I meets with a deck of cards
-----F-----G
I lays my money down.;
-----F-----C
I lays my money down,
-----F-----C
I lays my money down.

There's moonlight on the water,
There's a steamboat coming down,
Her windows all a-glowing
As we pass a quiet town... (REF)

There's drinking and there's laughter
As we steam along;
The piano man lights up his pipe,
Then plays another song... (REF)

That image now is shattered
Into a thousand shards;
While I'm left here to raise the bid,
And draw another card... (REF)

There was a Russian dancer,
Natasha was her name;
She fled the Winter Palace,
As it went up in flames... (REF)

She danced across the border,
Through Vienna to Paris,
And when the War was over,
She danced across the sea... (REF)

She landed in New York City;
'Long Broadway she did blaze,
And then just like a shooting star,
To the West she made her way...(REF)

I met her on this steamboat;
She danced my heart away,
And though she loved me dearly,
With me she would not stay...(REF)

She was a rich man's mistress;
Her fortune it was made;
I am a riverboat gambler,
Smoke and mirrors is my trade...(REF)

I think of all that might have been,
Though it's been awhile,
As I sit here with three aces,
And the shadow of a smile...(REF)

Notes:

River Gambler Fragment

Like a steamboat on the river,
Running through the moonlight on the water,
The image is all shattered into a thousand shards;
So I sit here with three aces, and I raise the bid again,
And there's a shadow of a smile as I draw another card.