

The boxer

Paul Simon

C **C**
I am just a poor boy
C **Am**
Though my story's seldom told
G **G**
I have squandered my resistance
G7 **G6**
For a pocketful of mumbles
C **C C**
Such are promises
Am
All lies and jest
G **F**
Still, a man hears what he wants to hear
F **C** **G G G7 C C C**
And disregards the rest

C **C**
When I left my home and my family
C **Am**
I was no more than a boy
G **G**
In the company of strangers
G7 **G6**
In the quiet of the railway station
C **C C**
Running scared
Am **G** **F**
Laying low, seeking out the poorer quarters
F **C**
Where the ragged people go
G **G7** **C**
Looking for the places only they would know

Refrain :

Am **G**
Lie la lie, lie la lie la lie la lie
Am **G** **C**
Lie la lie, lie la lie la la la Lie la la la lie Lie

C **C**
Asking only workman's wages
C **Am**
I come looking for a job
G **G**
But I get no offers
G7 **G6** **C** **C**
Just a come-on from the whores on Seventh Avenue
Am **G** **F**
I do declare, there were times when I was so lonesome
F **C**
I took some comfort there

G G7 C C
Ooo-La-la-la-la-la-la

C C
Now the years are rolling by me

C Am
They are rocking evenly

G G
And I am older than I once was

G7 G6
And younger than I'll be

C C C
But that's not unusual

Am
No, it isn't strange

G F
After changes upon changes

F C G
We are more or less the same

G
After changes we are

G7 C
More or less the same

Refrain

C C
Then I'm laying out my winter clothes

C Am
Wishing I was gone

G G
Going home

G7 G6 C C Em
Where the New York City winters aren't bleeding me

Em Am
Leading me

G G G7 C C
To going home

C C
In the clearing stands a boxer

C Am
And a fighter by his trade

G G
And he carries the reminders

G7 G6
Of every glove that laid him down

C C
And cut him till he cried out

C Am
In his anger and his shame

G F
"I am leaving, I am leaving"

F C G F C
But the fighter still remains, he's still remains

Refrain