Steve Eulberg
JamPlay Fingerstyle 9.29.09

The Boxer
Paul Simon

C
I am just a poor boy,
C/B Am
though my story's seldom told
G
I have squandered my resistance
C
for a pocketful of mumbles, such are promises.
C/B Am
All lies and jest,
G F
still a man hears what he wants to hear,
C G - - C - - - -
and disregards the rest

C
When I left my home and my family,
C/B Am
I was no more than a boy
G
in the company of strangers
Dm7 C
in the quiet of a railway station running scared,
Am G F C
Laying low, seeking out the poorer quarters where the ragged people go,
G F Em Dm C
Looking for the places only they would know.

Am G
Lie-la-lie, Lie-la-lie la lie-la-lie
Am G F G C
Lie-la-lie, Lie-la-lie la lie-la-la-la-Lie-la-la-la-la-lie

C Am G
Asking only workman's wages I come looking for a job, but I get no offers,
Dm7 C
Just a come-on from the whores on Seventh Avenue.
Am G F C
I do declare, there were times when I was so lonesome I took some comfort there.
G
Ooo-la-la la-la la la.

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C C/B Am G
Then I'm laying out my winter clothes and wishing I was gone going home
Dm7 G7 C
Where the New York City winters aren't bleeding me,
Em Am G C
Leading me, going home

C C/B Am
In the clearing stands a boxer and a fighter by his trade,
G G7 C
And he carries the reminders of ev'ry glove that laid him down
Dm7 G7 C C/B Am
Or cut him till he cried out in his anger and his shame:
G F C G C G F C
"I am leaving, I am leaving." But the fighter still remains.

Chorus and repeat