

## MAYBE – IT’S HARD TO SAY

Joe Crookston from Ithaca, N.Y. is an amazing songwriter who has penned a great many songs about a great variety of people and their stories. In this highly philosophical tale, the melody is simple and traditional-sounding, but the chords are actually a little bit tricky, with frequent changes creating a lot of harmonic movement. This song, from Joe’s excellent 2011 CD, *Darkling & the Bluebird Jubilee* is published here with Joe’s gracious permission. You can access the lyrics, chords, and audio from the links below. For guitarists who want to avoid the B flat chord shape, you can capo up to the fifth fret, and substitute **Am**, **F**, **C** and **G** for **Dm**, **B<sup>b</sup>**, **F** and **C**, respectively. (RED CHORDS WITH CAPO AT FIFTH FRET)

<https://youtu.be/ISS6i7G78Zw?si=0EkPRGVirr1Vd9fn>

## GOOD LUCK JOHN

by Joe Crookston

**Am** **F** **C** **G**  
**Dm** **B<sup>b</sup>** **F** **C**  
John had a horse and the horse ran away – bad luck, bad luck  
**Am** **F** **C** **G** **Am**  
**Dm** **B<sup>b</sup>** **F** **C** **Dm**  
John had a horse and the horse ran away -- bad, bad luck.  
**F** **C** **G** **Am**  
**B<sup>b</sup>** **F** **C** **Dm**  
Bad, bad luck the neighbors did say – bad luck, John, has come your way.  
**F** **C** **G**  
**B<sup>b</sup>** **F** **C**  
Bad luck has come your way.  
**Am** **F** **G** **Am** **F** **G**  
**Dm** **B<sup>b</sup>** **C** **Dm** **B<sup>b</sup>** **C**  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.

Well, the horse came back with a wild mare – good luck, good luck  
The horse came back with a pretty white mare – good, good luck.  
Good, good luck the neighbors did say – good luck, John, has come your way.  
Good luck has come your way.  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.

Well, the mare kicked John and broke his leg – bad luck, bad luck.  
The pretty white mare broke John’s leg – bad, bad luck.  
Bad, bad luck the neighbors did say – bad luck John has come your way.  
Bad luck has come your way.  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.

With a broken leg he missed the draft – good luck, good luck.  
The army came, and walked on past – good, good luck.  
Good, good luck the neighbors did say – good luck, John, has come your way.  
Good luck has come your way.  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.

Well, his leg grew worse and it would not heal – bad luck, bad luck  
And the pain was all that John could feel – bad, bad luck.  
Bad, bad luck the neighbors did say – bad luck John has come your way.  
Bad luck has come your way.  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.

Well, the nurse she came to take care of – good luck, good luck.  
And the two of them they fell in love – good, good luck.  
Good, good luck the neighbors did say – good luck, John, has come your way.  
Good luck has come your way.  
He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say. He said, “Maybe” – it’s hard to say.