

THE RAT WAS ME

I got a bit of inspiration for this song from my friend Joe Crookston's song about the drunk rooster in the mash pile. When I did this song for a roomful of psychologists, I told them that I was sure they could find all manner of symbolism and clues about the author's psychological makeup in this song. But beware: Sometimes a rat is just a rat. You can hear this song at https://youtu.be/Zw-qT65_gHY.

RAT IN MY KITCHEN

By Paul Cooper

Am E Am A7 Dm A7 Dm

Rat in my kitchen, how do I know? –

Am E7 Am

Pantry door is open, and the whiskey's getting' low.

Dm G C

Lock my house up tight, I let nobody in

Am E7 Am

'Fore I go to bed get up and check the locks again.

Dm G C

Get up in the morning, make my coffee in the pot

Am E7 Am

Bottle on the counter it looks down by quite a lot.

Am E Am A7 Dm A7 Dm

Rat in my kitchen, how do I know? –

Am E7 Am

Pantry door is open, and the whiskey's getting' low.

F G C
What can be the story here – something goin' on –

Am E7 Am

Somethin' in my kitchen went and drank that bottle down.

Dm G C

Cockroaches, mouse traces, I'll have none of that

E7 Am

I'll bet fifty dollars it's a whiskey drinkin' rat.

Dm G C
So I rummaged in my tool shed to see what i could find

Am C E
To liquidate that rat and leave this episode behind.

Dm G C
Lyin' in a corner underneath some rusty scrap

E7 Am
The answer to my problem – it's a good old-fashioned trap.

Dm **G** **C**
Found a piece of cheese in the fridge that I had missed.

Am **E7** **Am** **A7**
It was old and hard and nasty, like a rat cannot resist

Dm **G** **C**
I pulled back the spring and I cocked that sucker tight.

Am **E7** **Am**
Put it on the floor where it was sittin' in plain sight.

F **G** **C** **E7**
Wandered off to bed with my expectation high

Am **E** **Am** **E7** **Am**
I'll catch something in the night when that springing trap lets fly.

Am E Am A7 Dm A7 Dm

Rat in my kitchen, how do I know? –

Am E7 Am

Pantry door is open, and the whiskey's getting' low.

F **G** **C**
I dreamed I was sitting in a beautiful saloon.

E7 **Am**
Where the drinks were free and lovely people chatting in the room.

F **G** **C**
I dreamed I was walking out the door to go

E7 **Am** **A7**
When a pain like a red-hot iron exploded in my toe.

Dm **G** **C**
I opened up my eyes – I was walkin with them shut

Am **E7** **Am**
Looked down and found the big old trap was clamped upon my foot.

Dm **G** **C**
Woke up in the kitchen, walkin in my sleep.

E7 **Am**
My toe was broke, the rat was me, I fell into a heap.

Am E Am A7 Dm A7 Dm
Rat in my kitchen, how do I know? –
Am E7 Am
Pantry door is open, and the whiskey's getting' low.