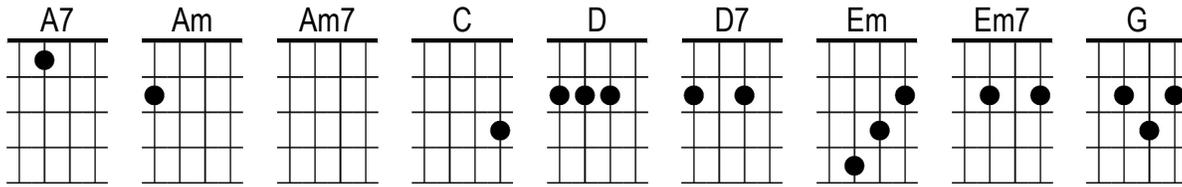


American Pie

Don McLean



A **G** long **D** long **Em7** time ago...
Am I can still re**C**member
How that **Em** music used to make me **D** smile
And I **G** knew if I **D** had my **Em7** chance
That **Am** I could make those **C** people dance
And **Em** maybe they'd be **C** happy for a **D** while
But **Em** February **Am** made me shiver
With **Em** every paper **Am** I'd deliver
C Bad news **G** on the **Am** doorstep;
I **C** couldn't take one more **D** step
I **G** can't re**D**member if I **Em** cried
When I **Am7** read about his **D** widowed bride,
But **G** something **D** touched me **Em** deep inside
The **C** day the **D7** music **G** died
So...

Chorus

1/2G Bye, **1/2C** bye Miss A**1/2G**merican **1/2D** Pie
Drove my **1/2G** Chevy to the **1/2C** levy but the **1/2G** levy was **1/2D** dry
And them **1/2G** good old **1/2C** boys were drinking **1/2G** whiskey and **1/2D** rye
Singin' **Em** this'll be the day that I **A7** die
Em This'll be the day that I **D7** die

G Did you write the **Am** book of love
And do **C** you have faith in **Am** God above?
Em If the Bible **D** tells you so |

Do $\frac{1}{2}G$ you be $\frac{1}{2}D$ lieve in Em Rock 'n Roll?
Can $Am7$ music save your C mortal soul?
And Em can you teach me $A7$ how to dance D real slow? |
Well, I $Em\downarrow$ know that you're in $D\downarrow$ love with him
'cause I $Em\downarrow$ saw you dancin' $D\downarrow$ in the gym
You $\frac{1}{2}C$ both kicked $\frac{1}{2}G$ off your D shoes,
Man, I C dig those rhythm and $D7$ blues
I was a $\frac{1}{2}G$ lonely $\frac{1}{2}D$ teenage Em broncin' buck
With a Am pink carnation and a C pickup truck
But $\frac{1}{2}G$ I knew $\frac{1}{2}D$ I was Em out of luck
The C day, the $D7$ music $\frac{1}{2}G$ died $\frac{1}{2}C$
 $\frac{1}{2}G$ I started $\frac{1}{2}D7$ singin'...

Repeat Chorus

Now for G ten years we've been Am on our own
And C moss grows fat on a Am rollin' stone,
 Em But that's not how it D used to be |
When the $\frac{1}{2}G$ jester $\frac{1}{2}D$ sang for the Em King and Queen,
In a $Am7$ coat he borrowed C from James Dean
And a Em voice that $A7$ came from you and D me |
Oh, and $Em\downarrow$ while the King was $D\downarrow$ looking down,
The $Em\downarrow$ jester stole his $D\downarrow$ thorny crown,
The $\frac{1}{2}C$ courtroom $\frac{1}{2}G$ was ad D journed;
No C verdict was re $D7$ turned,
And while $\frac{1}{2}G$ Lennon $\frac{1}{2}D$ read a Em book of Marx,
The Am court kept practice C in the park,
And $\frac{1}{2}G$ we sang $\frac{1}{2}D$ dirges Em in the dark
The C day the $D7$ music $\frac{1}{2}G$ died $\frac{1}{2}C$
 $\frac{1}{2}G$ We were $\frac{1}{2}D7$ singin'...

Repeat Chorus

G Helter-Skelter **Am** in the summer swelter,
 The **C** birds flew off with a **Am** fallout shelter,
Em Eight Miles High and **D** falling fast |
 It **1/2G** landed **1/2D** foul out **Em** on the grass,
 The **Am7** players tried for a **C** forward pass,
 With the **Em** jester on the **A7** sidelines in a **D** cast |
 Now the **Em**↓ half-time air was **D**↓ sweet perfume
 While the **Em**↓ sergeants played a **D**↓ marching tune,
 We **1/2C** all got **1/2G** up to **D** dance,
 But we **C** never got the **D7** chance↓
 'Cause the **1/2G** players **1/2D** tried to **Em** take the field;
 The **Am** marching band re**C**fused to yield,
 Do **1/2G** you re**1/2D**call what **Em** was revealed,
 The **C** day, the **D7** music **1/2G** died? **1/2C**
1/2G We started **1/2D7** singin'...

Repeat Chorus

Oh, and **G** there we were all **Am** in one place,
 A **C** generation **Am** lost in space
 With **Em** no time left to **D** start again |
 So come on; **G** Jack be nimble, **Em** Jack be quick↓
Am7 Jack Flash sat on a **C** candlestick
 'Cause **Em** fire is the **A7** Devil's only **D** friend |
 Oh, and **Em**↓ as I watched him **D**↓ on the stage
 My **Em**↓ hands were clenched in **D**↓ fists of rage,
 No **1/2C** angel **1/2G** born in **D** hell
 Could **C** break that Satan's **D7** spell,
 And as the **1/2G** flames climbed **1/2D** high in **Em** to the night
Am To light the sacri**C**ficial rite,
 I saw **1/2G** Satan **1/2D** laughing **Em** with delight
 The **C** day, the **D7** music **1/2G** died **1/2C**

$\frac{1}{2}G$ He was $\frac{1}{2}D7$ singin'...

Repeat Chorus

I G met a D girl who sang the Em blues
And I Am asked her for some C happy news,
But Em she just smiled and turned D away,
I G went down D to the sacred $Em7$ store
Where I'd Am heard the music C years before,
But the Em man there said the $A7$ music wouldn't D play
And Em in the streets the Am children screamed,
The Em lovers cried, and the Am poets dreamed
But C not a G word was Am spoken;
The C church bells all were $D7$ broken,
And the G three men D I ad Em mire most:
The $Am7$ Father, Son, and the C Holy Ghost,
They G caught the D last train Em for the coast
The C day the $D7$ music G died...
And they were singing...

G Bye, C bye Miss A G merican D Pie
Drove my G Chevy to the C levy but the G levy was D dry
Them G good old C boys were drinking G whiskey and D rye
Singin' Em this'll be the day that I $A7$ die
 Em This'll be the day that I $D7$ die |
They were singing...

$\frac{1}{2}G$ Bye, $\frac{1}{2}C$ bye Miss A $\frac{1}{2}G$ merican $\frac{1}{2}D$ Pie
Drove my $\frac{1}{2}G$ Chevy to the $\frac{1}{2}C$ levy, but the $\frac{1}{2}G$ levy was $\frac{1}{2}D$ dry,
And $\frac{1}{2}G$ good old $\frac{1}{2}C$ boys were drinking $\frac{1}{2}G$ whiskey and $\frac{1}{2}D$ rye
Singin' $\frac{1}{2}C$ this'll be the $\frac{1}{2}D$ day that I G die C G