

103. American Pie

Don McLean

You know how fast this goes, and just strum the first verse!

A [G] long, [D] long [Em7] time ago
[Am] I can still re[C]member how that [Em] music used to [D] make me smile
And [G] I know 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
[G] Something [D] touched me [Em] deep inside
The [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G]

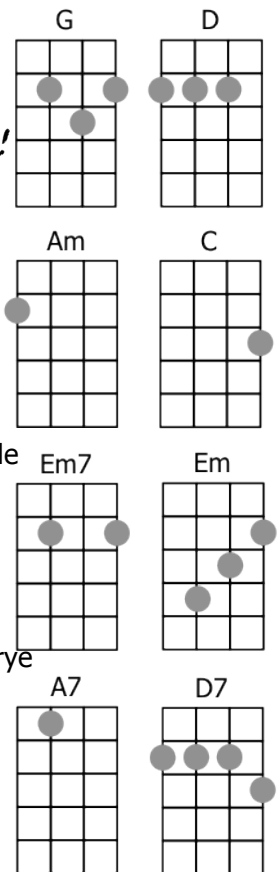
So [G] bye, [C] bye Miss A[G]merican [D] Pie
[D] Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levy but the [G] levy was [D] dry
[D] And them [G] good old [C] boys were drinkin' [G] whiskey and [D] rye
S[D]ingin' [Em] this will be the day that I [A7] die
[Em] This will be the day that I [D7] die

[G] Did you write the [Am] book of love
[Am] And do [C] you have faith in [Am] God above, [Em] if the bible tells you [D] so?
[D] Do [G] you be[D]lieve in [Em] rock and roll
[Em] Can [Am7] music save your [C] mortal soul
[C] And [Em] can you teach me [A7] how to dance [D] real slow?
[D] Well I [Em] know that you're in [D] love with him 'cuz I [Em] saw you dancin' [D] in the gym
[D] You [C] both kicked [G] off your [A7] shoes, man I [C] dig those rhythm and [D7] blues
[D7] I was a [G] lonely [D] teenage [Em] broncin' buck with a [Am] pink carnation and a [C] pickup truck
[C] But [G] I knew [D] I was [Em] out of luck the [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G]
I started singin'

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

[D7] Now for [G] ten years we've been [Am] on our own,
[Am] And the [C] moss grows fat on a [Am] rolling stone [Em] but that's not how it [D] used to be
[D] When the [G] jester [D] sang for the [Em] king and queen
[Em] In a [Am7] coat he borrowed [C] from James Dean
[C] In a [Em] voice that came from [A7] you and [D] me
[D] And [Em] while the king was [D] looking down, the [Em] jester stole his [D] thorny crown
[D] The [C] courtroom [G] was adj[A7]ourned, no [C] verdict was ret[D7]urned
[D7] And while [G] Lenin [D] read a [Em] book on Marx, the [Am] quartet practiced [C] in the park
[C] And [G] we sang [D] dirges [Em] in the dark the [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G], We were
singin'...

So [G] bye, [C] bye Miss A[G]merican [D] Pie
[D] Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levy but the [G] levy was [D] dry
[D] And them [G] good old [C] boys were drinkin' [G] whiskey and [D] rye
[D] Singin' [Em] this will be the day that I [A7] die
[Em] This will be the day that I [D7] die



[G] Helter skelter in a [Am] summer swelter
[Am] The [C] birds flew off with a [Am] fallout shelter, [Em] eight miles high and fallin' [D] fast
[D] It lan[G]ded [D] foul on [Em] the grass
[Em] The [Am7] players tried for a [C] forward pass, [Em] with the jester on the sidelines [A7] in
cast
[A7] Now at [Em] halftime there was [D] sweet perfume, while [Em] sergeants played a [D] marching tune
[C] We all got [G] up to [A7] dance, but [C] we never got the [D7] chance
[D7] 'Cuz the [G] players [D] tried to [Em] take the field, the [Am] marching band re[C]fused to yield
[C] Do [G] you re[D]call what [Em] was the feel the [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G]
We started singin'

So [G] bye, [C] bye Miss A[G]merican [D] Pie
[D] Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levy but the [G] levy was [D] dry
[D] And them [G] good old [C] boys were drinkin' [G] whiskey and [D] rye
[D] Singin' [Em] this will be the day that I [A7] die
[Em] This will be the day that I [D7] die

[D7] And [G] there we were all [Am] in one place,
[Am] A [C] generation [Am] lost in space, [Em] with no time left to [D] start again
[D] So come on [G] Jack be [D] nimble, [Em] Jack be quick, [Am7] Jack Flash sat on a [C] candle
stick, [Em] 'cuz fire is the devil's only [A7] friend [D]
[D] And [Em] as I watched him [D] on the stage, my [Em] hands were clenched in [D] fists of rage
[D] No [C] angel [G] born in [A7] Hell could [C] break that Satan's [D7] spell
[D7] And as the [G] flames climbed [D] high into [Em] the night to [Am] light the sacrif[C]ial rite
[D] I saw [G] Satan [D] laughing with [Em] delight the [C] day the [D7] music [G] died, [C] [G] he was
singin'

So [G] bye, [C] bye Miss A[G]merican [D] Pie
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[D] And them [G] good old [C] boys were drinkin' [G] whiskey and [D] rye
[D] Singin' [Em] this will be the day that I [A7] die
[Em] This will be the day that I [D7] die

[D7] I [G] met a [D] girl who [Em] sang the blues
[Em] And I [G] asked her for some [C] happy news, but [Em] she just smiled and turned a[D]way
[D] I [G] went down [D] to the [Em] sacred store
[Em] Where I'd [Am] heard the music [C] years before, but the [Em] man there said the [C] music
wouldn't [D] play

[D] But [Em] in the streets the [Am] children screamed, the [Em] lovers cried and the [Am] poets
dreamed
[Am] But [C] not a [G] word was [Am] spoken, the [C] church bells all were [D] broken
[D] And the [G] three men [D] I ad[Em]mire most, the [Am7] Father, [C] Son, and the [D7] Holy Ghost
[G] They caught the [D] last train [Em] for the coast the [Am7] day the [D7] music [G] died,
[D7] And they were singin'

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