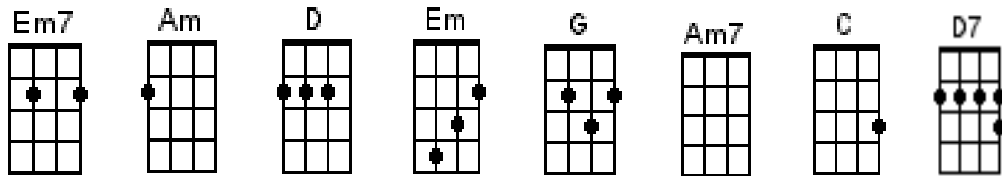




American Pie – Don McClean (shortened version)



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 [G] I knew if [D] I had [Em7] my chance,
that [Am] I could make those [C] people dance,
And [Em] maybe they'd be [C] happy for a [D] while.
[Em] But February [Am] made me shiver, [Em] With 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 deep in-[Em]-side,
The [C] day the [D7] Music [G] Died [C] [G]

Chorus: So [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
And 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.

[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 [G] you be-[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] know that you're in [D] love with him
'cause I [Em] saw you dancin' [D] in the gym
You [C] both kicked [G] off your [A7] shoes,
Man, I [C] dig those rythmn and [D7] blues
I was a [G] lonely [D] teenage [Em] broncin' buck
With a [Am] pink carnation and a [C] pickup truck.
But [G] I knew [D] I was [Em]out of luck, The [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G]

I started singin' ... **Chorus**

[G] Now for 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 [G] jester [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 [D] you and me
 Oh, and [Em] while the King was [D] looking down,
 The [Em] jester stole his [D] thorny crown
 The [C] courtroom [G] was ad-[A7]-journed, No [C] verdict was re-[D7]-turned
 And while [G] Lennon [D] read a [Em] book on Marx,
 The [Am] quartet practised [C] in the park,
 And [G] we sang [D] dirges [Em] in the dark,
 The [C] day the [D7] music [G] died [C] [G]

We were singing.....**Chorus**

[G] Oh, and 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
 Jack [Am7] 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
 [C] No angel [G] born in [A7] hell, Could [C] break that Satan's [D7] spell
 And as the [G] flames climbed [D] high in [Em] -to the night
 To [Am] light the sacri-[C]-fical rite, I saw [G] Satan [D] laugh with de-[Em]-light
 The [C] day the [D7] Music [G] died [C] [G]

He was singing... **Chorus**

I [G] met a girl who sang the [Am] blues,
 And I [C] asked her for some [Am] happy news,
 But [Em] she smiled and turned [D] away, I [G] went down to the sacred [D] store,
 Where I'd [Em] heard the music [Am7] years before
 But the [Em] man there said the [A7] music wouldn't [D] play...
 And in the [Em] streets the children [D] screamed
 The [Em] lovers cried, and the poets [D] dreamed
 But [C] not a [G] word was [A7] spoken, The [C] Church bells all were [D7] broken
 And [G] three men I [D] admire most,
 The [Em] Father, [Am] 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 [C] [G]

And they were singing...**Chorus x 2 and repeat last line to end**