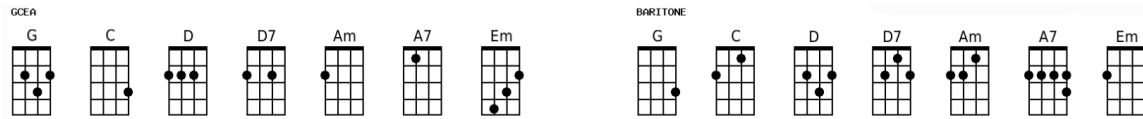


American Pie - Don McLean



[Verse 1] - Strum down 1x each chord, up strum the 1st Em in each phrase

A [G//] long, [D//] long [Em] time ago, [Am] I can still re-[C]member how
 That [Em] music used to [D] make me smile. [D7]
 I [G//] knew [D//] if I [Em] had my 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, [Em] with every paper [Am] I'd deliver,
 [C//]Bad news [G//] on the [Am] doorstep, I [C] couldn't take one [D] more step.
 I [G//] can't re-[D//]member [Em] if I cried when I [Am] read about his [D] widowed bride,
 [G//]Something [D//]touched me [Em] deep inside, the [C] day,
 the [D7] music, [G] died.

[Chorus] - Strum D DU

So [G//]Bye -[C//]bye, Miss A-[G//]-merican [D//]Pie,
 drove my [G//]Chevy to the [C//]levee but the [G//]levee was [D//]dry,
 Them [G//]good ole' [C//]boys were drinkin'
 [G//]whiskey and [D//]rye, singin'
 [Em]This'll be the day that I [A7]die, --1 down strum each chord here
 [Em]this'll be the day that I [D]die. [D7]

[Verse 2] - Strum pattern D DU UDU

[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? [D7]
 Now do [G//] you be-[D//]lieve in [Em] rock and roll,
 can [Am] music save your [C] mortal soul and
 [Em] Can you teach me [A7] how to dance real [D] slow? [D]
 Well, I [Em] know that you're in [Am] love with him, —1 down strum each chord
 `cause I [Em] saw you dancing [Am] in the gym.
 You [C//] both kicked [G//] off your [A7] shoes, —back to D DU Strum pattern
 man I [C] dig those rhythm and [D] blues.
 I was a [G//]lonely [D//]teenage [Em]broncin' buck — on Em start D DU UDU
 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 [D//]singing

[Chorus] - Strum D DU

[G//]Bye -[C//]bye, Miss A-[G//]-merican [D//]Pie,
drove my [G//]Chevy to the [C//]levee but the [G//]levee was [D//]dry,
Them [G//]good ole' [C//]boys were drinkin'
[G//]whiskey and [D//]rye, singin'
[Em]This'll be the day that I [A7]die, --1 down strum each chord here
[Em]this'll be the day that I [D]die. [D7]

[Verse 3] - Strum same as Verse 2

Now for ten[G] years, we've been [Am]on our own;
and [C]moss grows fat on a [Am]rolling stone,
but[Em]that's not how it [D]used to be [D7]
When the [G]jester sang for the [Em]king and queen
In a [Am]coat he borrowed [C]from James Dean
And a [Em]voice that [A]came from you and [D]me [D]
Oh, and [Em]while the king was [Am]looking down, ---1 down strum each chord
the [Em]jester stole his [Am]thorny crown
the [C//]court room [G//]was ad-[A7]journed, no[C] verdict was ret-[D]-urned
And while [G//]Lennon re-[D//]-ad a [Em]book on Marx,
the qu-[Am]-artet practiced in[C] the park;
and we[G//] sang di-[D//]-rges [Em] in the dark,
the [C]day the [D]music [G//]died[C//]
[G//]we were [D//]singing

[Chorus] - Strum D DU

[G//]Bye -[C//]bye, Miss A-[G//]-merican [D//]Pie,
drove my [G//]Chevy to the [C//]levee but the [G//]levee was [D//]dry,
Them [G//]good ole' [C//]boys were drinkin'
[G//]whiskey and [D//]rye, singin'
[Em]This'll be the day that I [A7]die, --1 down strum each chord here
[Em]this'll be the day that I [D]die. [D7]

[Verse 4] - Strum same as verse 3

[G]Helter skelter in a [Am]summer swelter
the [C]birds flew off with a [Am]fallout shelter,
[Em]eight miles high and [D]fallin' fast [D7]
it lan-[G]-ded foul on[Em] the grass
the [Am]players tried for a [C]forward pass,
with the [Em]jester on the [A]sidelines in a [D]cast [D]

Now the **[Em]**half-time air was **[D]**sweet perfume, —1 down strum each chord
while **[Em]**sergeants played a **[D]**marching tune
We **[C//]**all got up**[G//]** to da-**[A7]**-nce, but we **[C]**never got the **[D]**chance
'Cuz the **[G//]**players **[D//]**tried to **[Em]**take the field,
the **[Am]**marching band ref-**[C]**-used to yield
Do **[G//]**you rec-**[D//]**-all what **[Em]**was revealed
the **[C]**day the **[D]**music **[G//]**died**[C//]**
[G//]we started **[D//]**singin'

[Chorus] - Strum D DU

[G//]Bye -**[C//]**bye, Miss A-**[G//]**-merican **[D//]**Pie,
drove my **[G//]**Chevy to the **[C//]**levee but the **[G//]**levee was **[D//]**dry,
Them **[G//]**good ole' **[C//]**boys were drinkin'
[G//]whiskey and **[D//]**rye, singin'
[Em]This'll be the day that I **[A7]**die, --1 down strum each chord here
[Em]this'll be the day that I **[D]**die. **[D7]**

[Verse 5] - Strum same as verse 4

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 **[D7]**
So come**[G]** on Jack be nimble,
[Em]Jack be quick, Jack **[C]**Flash sat on a **[D]** candle
stick, 'cuz **[Em]**fire is the **[A]**devil's only**[D]** friend **[D]**
And **[Em]**as I watched him **[D]**on the stage, —1 down strum each chord
my **[Em]**hands were clenched in **[D]**fists of rage
No **[C//]**angel **[G//]**born in **[A7]**Hell could **[C]**break that Satan's **[D]**spell
And as the **[G//]**flames climbed **[D//]**high in-**[Em]**-to the night
to **[Am]**light the sacr-**[C]**-ificial rite
I saw**[G//]** Satan **[D//]**laughing **[Em]**with delight
the **[C]**day the **[D]**music **[G//]**died**[C//]**
[G//]he was **[D//]**singin'

[Chorus] - Strum D DU

[G//]Bye -**[C//]**bye, Miss A-**[G//]**-merican **[D//]**Pie,
drove my **[G//]**Chevy to the **[C//]**levee but the **[G//]**levee was **[D//]**dry,
Them **[G//]**good ole' **[C//]**boys were drinkin'
[G//]whiskey and **[D//]**rye, singin'
[Em]This'll be the day that I **[A7]**die, --1 down strum each chord here
[Em]this'll be the day that I **[D]**die. **[D7]**

[Verse 6] — Back to one strum down each chord up on 1st Em

[G//] I met a **[D//]** girl who **[Em]** sang the blues
and I **[Am]** asked her for some **[C]** happy news,
but **[Em]** she just smiled and **[D]** turned away. **[D7]**
[G//] I went **[D//]** down to the **[Em]** sacred store
where I **[Am]** heard the music **[C]** years before,
but the **[Em]** man there said the **[C]** 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 **[D]** broken.
And the **[G//]** three men **[D//]** I ad-**[Em]**-mire most,
the **[Am]** Father, Son and the **[D]** Holy Ghost,
they **[G//]** caught the **[D//]** last train **[Em]**for the coast, the **[C]** day,
the mu-**[D7]**-sic, **[G]** died.

[Chorus] — Strum pattern DUDU ending, play slower and a little softer

[NC] And they were singin'....

[G//] Bye - **[C//]** bye, Miss A-**[G//]**merican **[D//]** Pie,
drove my **[G//]** chevy to the **[C//]** levee but the **[G//]** levee was **[D//]** dry,
Them **[G//]** good ole' **[C//]** boys were drinkin' **[G//]** whiskey and **[D//]** rye, singin'
[C//] This'll be the **[D//]** day that I **[G//]** die **[D7//]**--1 down strum each chord here
louder

[NC]They were singing **[G//]**Bye -**[C//]** bye, Miss A-**[G//]**merican **[D//]** Pie,
drove my **[G//]** chevy to the **[C//]** levee but the **[G//]** levee was **[D//]** dry,
Them **[G//]** good ole' **[C//]** boys were drinkin' **[G//]** whiskey and **[D//]** rye,
Singin'**[C//]** This'll be the **[D7//]** day that I **[G//]** die **[C//]** **[G]**