

American Pie

Writer and Artist: Don MacLean

(Single strums on first verse)

A [C] long, [G] long [Am] time ago, [Dm] I can still re-[F]member how
That [Am] music used to [G] make me smile. [G!] [Gsus4!] [G!][Gsus2!] [G!]
I [C] knew [G] if I [Am] had my chance
that [Dm] I could make those [F] people dance
and [Am] maybe they'd be [F] happy for a [G] while. [G!] [Gsus4!] [G!][Gsus2!] [G!]
But [Am] February [Dm] made me shiver,
with [Am] every paper [Dm] I'd deliver,
[F] Bad news on the [Dm] doorstep,
I [F] couldn't take one [G] more step.
I [C] can't re-[G]member [Am] if I cried when I
[Dm] read about his [G] widowed bride,
[C] Something [G] touched me [Am] deep inside,
the [F] day, the [G7] music, [C] died.

Slow Strumming (Dum Ching Dum Ching)

So [C] Bye - [F] bye, Miss A-[C]merican [G] Pie,
drove my [C] chevy to the [F] levee but the [C] levee was [G] dry,
Them [C] good ole' [F] boys were drinkin' [C] whiskey and [G] rye, singin'
[Am!] This'll be the day that I [D7!] die,
[Am!] this'll be the day that I [G!] die. [G!] [G!] [Gsus2!] [G!] [Gsus4!][G!][Gsus2!] [G]

Faster Strumming (Dum Chinga Dum a-chinga)

[C] Did you write the [Dm] book of love ?
and do [F] you have faith in [Dm] God above,?
if the [Am] Bible [G] tells you so? [G7]
Now do [C] you be-[G]lieve in [Am] rock and roll,
can [Dm] music save your [F] mortal soul and
[Am] Can you teach me [D7] how to dance real [G] slow?
Well, I [Am!] know that you're in [G!] love with him,
'cause I [Am!] saw you dancing [G!] in the gym.
You [F] both kicked [C] off your [Dm] shoes,
man I [F] dig those rhythm and [G7] blues.
I was a [C] lonely [G] teenage [Am] broncin' buck
with a [Dm] pink carnation and a [F] pick up truck,
but I [C] knew [G] I was [Am] out of luck
the [F] day, the [G7] music, [C] died. [F] [C]

And they were [G] singing..... [C] Bye - [F] bye, Miss A-[C]merican [G] Pie,
drove my [C] chevy to the [F] levee but the [C] levee was [G] dry,
Them [C] good ole' [F] boys were drinkin' [C] whiskey and [G] rye, singin'
[Am!] This'll be the day that I [D7!] die,
[Am!] this'll be the day that I [G] die. [G!] [G!] [Gsus2!] [G!] [Gsus4!][G!][Gsus2!] [G]

Now for [C] ten years we've been [Dm] on our own
And [F] moss grows fat on a [Dm] rolling stone

[Am] But that's not how it used to [G] be [G7]
 When the [C] jester [G] sang for the [Am] King and Queen
 In a [Dm] coat he borrowed from [F] James Dean
 And a [Am] voice that [D7] came from you and [G] me
 Oh and [Am!] while the King was [G!] looking down
 The [Am!] jester stole his [G!] thorny crown
 The [F] courtroom [C] was ad [Dm] journed. No [F] verdict was re [G] turned
 And while [C] Lenin [G] read a [Am] book on Marx
 The [Dm] Quartet practiced in the [F] park
 And [C] we sang [G] dirges [Am] in the dark
 The [F] day the [G7] music [C] died [F] [C]

And they were [G] singin'
 [C] Bye - [F] bye, Miss A-[C]merican [G] Pie,
 drove my [C] chevy to the [F] levee but the [C] levee was [G] dry,
 Them [C] good ole' [F] boys were drinkin' [C] whiskey and [G] rye, singin'
 [Am!] This'll be the day that I [D7!] die,
 [Am!] this'll be the day that I [G!] die [G!] [Gsus2!] [G!] [Gsus4!][G!][Gsus2!] [G]

Single strums

[C] I met a [G] girl who [Am] sang the blues
 and I [Dm] asked her for some [F] happy news,
 but [Am] she just smiled and [G] turned away. [G][Gsus4][G][Gsus2] [G]
 [C] I went down [G] to the [Am] sacred store
 where I [Dm] heard the music [F] years before,
 but the [Am] man there said the [F] music wouldn't [G] play [G][Gsus4][G][Gsus2] [G]
 And [Am!] in the streets the [Dm!] children screamed,
 the [Am!] lovers cried and the [Dm!] poets dreamed,
 but [F] not a [C] word was [Dm] spoken,
 the [F] church bells all were [G] broken.
 And the [C] three men [G] I ad-[Am]mire most,
 the [Dm] father, [F] son and the [G] holy ghost,
 they [C] caught the [G] last train [Am] for the coast,
 the [F] day, the [G7] music, [C] died.....

Slower Strumming.

And they were singin'.... [C] Bye - [F] bye, Miss A-[C]merican [G] Pie,
 drove my [C] chevy to the [F] levee but the [C] levee was [G] dry,
 Them [C] good ole' [F] boys were drinkin' [C] whiskey and [G] rye, singing
 [Am!] This'll be the day that I [D7!] die
 [Am!] this'll be the day that I [G!] die [G!] [Gsus2!][G!][Gsus4!][G] [Gsus2!] [G!]

And they were singin'.... [C] Bye - [F] bye, Miss A-[C]merican [G] Pie,
 drove my [C] chevy to the [F] levee but the [C] levee was [G] dry,
 Them [C] good ole' [F] boys were drinkin' [C] whiskey and [G] rye,
 Singin' [F] This'll be the [G] day that I [C] die [F!] [C!]

American Pie Chords

