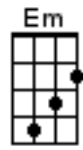
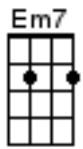


American Pie

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 [G >] I 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 [D >] one more step

I [G >] can't re-[D >]-member [Em7 >] if I 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

2. 3 .[G slowish] So bye [C] bye Miss A-[G]-merican [D] Pie
Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levee but the [G] levee 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 normal speed] die [D7]

[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 [D]
Do [G] you believe in [Em] Rock 'n 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 [D >] love with him
'cause I [Em >] saw you dancin' [D >] in the gym
You [C] both kicked [G] off your [Am] shoes,
Man, I [C] dig those rhythm 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 [D] singin'



The [C] day the [D7] Music [G //] Died [C //]
[G] I started [D] 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
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 [D7]

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 [D]
When the [G] jester [D] sang for the [Em] King and Queen,
In a [Am] coat he borrowed [C] from James Dean
And a [Em] voice that [A7] came from you and [D] me [D]

Oh, and [Em >] while the King was [D >] looking down,
The [Em >] jester stole his [D >] thorny crown,
The [C] courtroom [G] was ad-[Am] journed;
No [C] verdict was re-[D7]-turned,

And while [G] Lennon [D] read a [Em] book on Marx,
The [Am] quartet practiced [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 [D] 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
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 [D7]

[G] Helter-Skelter [Am] in the summer swelter,
The [C] Byrds flew off with a [Am] fallout shelter,
[Em] Eight Miles High and [D] falling fa-a-ast [D]
It [G] landed [D] foul out [Em] on the grass,
The [Am] players tried for a [C] forward pass,
With the [Em] jester on the [A7] sidelines in a [D] cast [D]



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The [Am] players tried for a [C] forward pass,
With the [Em] Jester on the [A7] sidelines in a [D] cast [D]

Now the [Em >] half-time air was [D >] sweet perfume
While the [Em >] sergeants played a [D >] marching tune,
[C] We all got [G] up to [Am] dance,
But we [C] never got the [D7] chance!

'Cause the [G] players [D] tried to [Em] take the field;
The [Am] marching band re-[C] fused to yield,
[G] Do you re-[D]-call what [Em] was revealed,
The [C] day the [D7] Music [G //] Died? [C //]
[G] We started [D] 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
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 [D7]

Oooh, [G] and there we were [Am] all in one place,
A [C] generation [Am] Lost in Space
With [Em] no time left to [D] start again. [D]
So come on: [G] Jack be [D] nimble, [Em] Jack be quick!
[Am] Jack Flash sat on a [C] candlestick
'Cause [Em] fire is the [A7] Devil's only [D] frie-end [D]

Oh, [Em >] and as I watched him [D >] on the stage
My [Em >] hands were clenched in [D >] fists of rage,
[C] No angel [G] born in [Am] hell
Could [C] break that Satan's [D7] spell,

And as the [G] flames climbed [D] high in-[Em]-to the night
[Am] To light the sacri-[C] ficial rite,
I saw [G] Satan [D] laughing [Em] with delight
The [C] day the [D7] Music [G //] Died [C //] [G] He was [D] singin' ...



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I saw [G] Satan [D] laughing [Em] with delight
The [C] day the [D7] Music [G //] Died [C //] [G] He was [D] 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
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 [D7 >]

[G > slower] I met a 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,
I [G >] went down to the [Em >] sacred store
Where I'd [Am >] heard the music [C >] years before,
But the [Em >] man there said the [A7 >] music wouldn't [D >] pla-ay

[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 [Am >] Father, [C >] Son and the [D7 >] Holy Ghost,
They [G >] caught the [D >] last train [Em >] for the coast
The [Am >] day the [D7 >] Mu-[D7 >]-sic [G >] Died
And they were singing

[G slowish] Bye [C] bye Miss A-[G]-merican [D] Pie
Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levee but the [G] levee 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 [D normal speed] die [D]

[D7] They were [D] 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,
And [G] good old [C] boys were drinking [G] whiskey and [D] rye
Singin' [C slow] this'll be the [D] day that I [G //] die [C //] [G >]