

American Pie – Don Mclean

G D Em Am C Em D  
A long, long time ago, I can still remember how that music made me smile.

G D Em Am C Em A D  
And I knew if I had my chance that I could make those people dance, and maybe, they'd be happy for a while.

Em Am Em Am  
But February made me shiver with every paper I'd deliver.

C G Am C D  
Bad news on the doorstep; I couldn't take one more step.

G D Em Am D  
I can't remember if I cried when I read about his widowed bride,  
G D Em C D G C G D  
But something touched me deep inside the day the music died.

G C G D G C G D  
So bye-bye, miss american pie. Drove my chevy to the levee, but the levee was dry.

G C G D Em A Em D  
Them good old boys were drinkin' whiskey n rye singin', this'll be the day that I die. This'll be the day that I die.

G Am C Am Em D  
Did you write the book of love, and do you have faith in God above, if the Bible tells you so?

G D Em Am C Em A D  
Do you believe in rock 'n roll, can music save your mortal soul, and can you teach me how to dance real slow?

Em Am Em Am  
Well, I know that you're in love with him 'cause I saw you dancin' in the gym.

C G Am C D  
You both kicked off your shoes. Man, I dig those rhythm and blues.

G D Em Am C  
I was a lonely teenage broncin' buck with a pink carnation and a pickup truck,

G D Em C D G C G D  
But I knew I was out of luck the day the music died.

G Am C Am Em D  
Now for ten years we've been on our own and moss grows fat on a rollin' stone, but that's not how it used to be.

G D Em Am C Em A D  
When the jester sang for the king & queen, in a coat he borrowed from James Dean & a voice that came from you & me,

Em Am Em Am  
Oh, and while the king was looking down, the jester stole his thorny crown.

C G Am C D  
The courtroom was adjourned; No verdict was returned.

G D Em Am C  
And while lennon read a book of marx, the quartet practiced in the park,

G D Em C D G C G D  
And we sang dirges in the dark the day the music died.

Helter skelter in a summer swelter.  
The birds flew off with a fallout shelter,  
Eight miles high and falling fast.  
It landed foul on the grass.  
The players tried for a forward pass,  
With the jester on the sidelines in a cast.

Now the half-time air was sweet perfume  
While the sergeants played a marching tune.  
We all got up to dance,  
Oh, but we never got the chance!  
'cause the players tried to take the field;  
The marching band refused to yield.  
Do you recall what was revealed  
The day the music died?

Oh, and there we were all in one place,  
A generation lost in space  
With no time left to start again.  
So come on: jack be nimble, jack be quick!  
Jack flash sat on a candlestick  
Cause fire is the devil's only friend.

Oh, and as I watched him on the stage  
My hands were clenched in fists of rage.  
No angel born in hell  
Could break that satan's spell.  
And as the flames climbed high into the night  
To light the sacrificial rite,  
I saw satan laughing with delight  
The day the music died

I met a girl who sang the blues  
And I asked her for some happy news,  
But she just smiled and turned away.  
I went down to the sacred store  
Where I'd heard the music years before,  
But the man there said the music wouldn't play.

And in the streets: the children screamed,  
The lovers cried, and the poets dreamed.  
But not a word was spoken;  
The church bells all were broken.  
And the three men I admire most:  
The father, son, and the holy ghost,

They caught the last train for the coast  
The day the music died.