

AMERICAN PIE

Don McLean

G - D - Em7 Am C  
A LONG, LONG TIME AGO I CAN STILL REMEMBER HOW  
Em D D D D  
THAT MUSIC USED TO MAKE ME SMILE  
G - D - Em7 Am C  
AND I KNEW IF I HAD MY CHANCE THAT I COULD MAKE THOSE PEOPLE DANCE  
Em C D D  
AND MAYBE THEY'D BE HAPPY FOR AWHILE.  
Em Am Em Am  
BUT FEBRUARY MADE MY 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 Am7 D  
I CAN'T REMEMBER IF I CRIED WHEN I READ ABOUT HIS WIDOWED BRIDE  
G - D - Em C D7 G C G G  
SOMETHING TOUCHED ME DEEP IN SIDE THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED.  
G C G D  
SO BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
G C G D  
DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
G C G D  
THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
Em Em A7 A7  
SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
Em Em D7 D7 D7 D7  
THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
G G Am Am C C Am Am  
DID YOU WRITE THE BOOK OF LOVE AND DO YOU HAVE FAITH IN GOD ABOVE?  
Em Em D D D D G D Em Em  
IF THE BIBLE TELLS YOU SO NOW DO YOU BELIEVE IN ROCK AND ROLL?  
Am7 Am7 C C  
CAN MUSIC SAVE YOUR MORTAL SOUL, AND  
Em Em A7 A7 D D D D  
CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO DANCE REAL SLOW?  
Em Em D D  
WELL I KNOW THAT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HIM  
Em Em D D  
'CAUSE I SAW YOU DANCIN' IN THE GYM  
C G A7 A7 C C D7 D7  
YOU BOTH KICKED OFF YOUR SHOES. MAN I DIG THOSE RHYTHM AND BLUES  
G D Em Em  
I WAS A LONELY TEENAGE BRONCIN' BUCK  
Am Am C C  
WITH A PINK CARNATION AND A PICKUP TRUCK.  
G D Em Em C C D7 D7 G C  
BUT I KNEW I WAS OUT OF LUCK THE DAY THE MU- SIC DIED.  
G D7 G C G D  
I STARTED SINGING BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
G C G D  
DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
G C G D  
THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
Em Em A7 A7  
SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.

**Em** **Em** **D7 D7 D7 D7**  
 THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
**G G** **Am Am**  
 NOW FOR TEN YEARS WE'VE BEEN ON OUR OWN,  
**C C** **Am Am**  
 AND MOSS GROWS FAT ON A ROLLIN' STONE  
**Em Em** **D D D D D**  
 BUT THAT'S NOT HOW IT USED TO BE  
**G D** **Em Em**  
 WHEN THE JESTER SANG FOR THE KING AND QUEEN  
**Am7 Am7** **C C**  
 IN A COAT HE BORROWED FROM JAMES DEAN  
**Em Em** **A7 A7** **D D D D**  
 AND A VOICE THAT CAME FROM YOU AND ME  
**Em Em** **D D**  
 THE COURTROOM WAS ADJOURNED, NO VERDICT WAS RETURNED  
**C G** **A7 A7** **C C** **D7 D7**  
 AND WHILE LENIN READ A BOOK ON MARX THE QUARTET PRACTICED IN THE PARK  
**G D** **Em Em** **C C** **D7 D7 G C**  
 AND WE SANG DIRGES IN THE DARK THE DAY THE MU- SIC DIED.  
**G D7** **G C** **G D**  
 WE WERE SINGING BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
**G C** **G D**  
 DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
**G C** **G D**  
 THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
**Em Em** **A7 A7**  
 SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
**Em Em** **D7 D7 D7 D7**  
 THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
**G G** **Am Am**  
 HELTER-SKELTER IN THE SUMMER SWELTER  
**C C** **Am Am**  
 THE BIRDS FLEW OFF WITH A FALLOUT SHELTER  
**Em Em** **D D D D D** **G D** **Em Em**  
 EIGHT MILES HIGH AND FALLIN' FAST, IT LANDED FOUL ON THE GRASS  
**Am7 Am7** **C C**  
 THE PLAYERS TRIED FOR A FORWARD PASS,  
**Em Em** **A7 A7** **D D D D**  
 WITH THE JESTER ON THE SIDELINES IN A CAST  
**Em Em** **D D**  
 WE ALL GOT UP TO DANCE BUT WE NEVER GOT THE CHANCE  
**C G** **A7 A7** **C C** **D7 D7** **D7 D7**  
 'CAUSE THE PLAYERS TRIED TO TAKE THE FIELD, THE MARCHING BAND REFUSED TO YIELD  
**G D** **Em Em** **C C** **D7 D7 G C**  
 DO YOU RECALL WHAT WAS REVEALED THE DAY THE MU-SIC DIED.  
**G D7** **G C** **G D**  
 WE STARTED SINGING BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
**G C** **G D**  
 DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
**G C** **G D**  
 THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
**Em Em** **A7 A7 Em** **Em** **D7 D7 D7 D7**  
 SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE. THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE  
**G G** **Am Am** **C C** **Am Am**  
 AND THERE WE WERE ALL IN ONE PLACE, A GENERATION LOST IN SPACE

**Em Em D D D D D**  
 WITH NO TIME LEFT TO START AGAIN  
**G D Em Em**  
 SO COME ON, JACK BE NIMBLE, JACK BE QUICK,  
**Am7 Am7 C C**  
 JACK FLASH SAT ON A CANDLESTICK,  
**Em Em A7 A7 D D D D D**  
 'CAUSE FIRE IS THE DEVIL'S ONLY FRIEND  
**Em Em D D**  
 AND AS I WATCHED HIM ON THE STAGE  
**C G A7 A7**  
 MY HANDS WERE CLENCHED IN FISTS OF RAGE  
**C C D7 D7**  
 NO ANGEL BORN IN HELL COULD BREAK THAT SATAN'S SPELL  
**G D Em Em C C C D7 D7**  
 AND AS THE FLAMES CLIMBED HIGH INTO THE NIGHT TO LIGHT THE SACRIFICIAL RITE  
**G D Em Em C C D7 D7 G C**  
 I SAW SATAN LAUGHING WITH DELIGHT THE DAY THE MU-SIC DIED.  
**G D7 G C G D**  
 HE WAS SINGING BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
**G C G D**  
 DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
**G C G D**  
 THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
**Em Em A7 A7 Em Em D7 D7 D7**  
 SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE. THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
**G - D - Em Am C**  
 I MET A GIRL WHO SANG THE BLUES AND I ASKED HER FOR SOME HAPPY NEWS  
**Em D D D G - D - Em - G**  
 BUT SHE JUST SMILED AND TURNED AWAY. I WENT DOWN TO THE SACRED STORE  
**Am - G - C**  
 WHERE I HEARD THE MUSIC YEARS BEFORE  
**Em C D D**  
 BUT THE MAN THERE SAID THE MUSIC WOULDN'T PLAY  
**Em Am**  
 AND IN THE STREETS THE CHILDREN SCREAMED,  
**Em Am**  
 THE LOVERS CRIED AND THE POETS DREAMED.  
**C - G - Am C D**  
 BUT NOT A WORD WAS SPOKEN; THE CHURCH BELLS ALL WERE BROKEN  
**G - D - Em - G C D7**  
 AND THE THREE MEN I ADMIRE MOST, THE FATHER, SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST,  
**G - D - Em C - Am7 D7 G G**  
 THEY CAUGHT THE LAST TRAIN FOR THE COAST, THE DAY THE MU- SIC DIED.  
**G D7 G C G D**  
 AND THEY WERE SINGING BYE- BYE, MISS AMERICAN PIE  
**G C G D**  
 DROVE MY CHEVY TO THE LEVEE BUT THE LEVEE WAS DRY.  
**G C G D**  
 THEM GOOD OLE BOYS WERE DRINKIN' WHISKEY AND RYE  
**Em Em A7 A7**  
 SINGIN' THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.  
**Em Em D7 D7 D7 D7**  
 THIS'LL BE THE DAY THAT I DIE.

