

American Pie by Don McLean

Intro: 4/4

G D Em
A long, long time a-go
Am C Em D
I can still re-mem-ber how that mu-sic used to make me smile
G D Em Am C
And I knew if I had my chance___ That I could make those peo-ple dance
Em C D
And may-be they'd be hap-py for a while

Em Am Em Am
But Feb-ru-ary made me shi-ver___ With ev'-ry pa-per I'd de-li-ver
C G Am C D
Bad news on the door-step___ I could-n't take one more step

G D Em Am D
I can't re-mem-ber if I cried___ When I read about his wi-dowed bride
G D Em C D7 G
But some-thing touched me deep in-side___ The day the mu-sic died... so

G C G D
Chorus: Bye-bye, Miss A-me-ri-can Pie
G C G D
Drove my Che-vy to the le-vee, but the le-vee was dry
G C G D
Them good ol' boys were drin-kin' whis-key and rye
Em A7
Sin-gin' "This'll be the day that I die
Em D7 | D7 |
This'll be the day that I die"

G Am C Am
1. Did you write the book of love___ And do you have faith in God a-bove
Em D | D |
If the Bible tells you so?
G D Em Am C
Now do you be-lieve in rock 'n' roll___ Can mu-sic save your mor-tal soul
Em A7 D | D |
And can you teach me how to dance real slow - ow?

Em D
Well, I know that you're in love with him
Em D
'Cause I saw you dan-cin' in the gym
C G A7 C D7
You both kicked off your shoes___ Man, I dig those rhy-thm and blues

G D Em
I was a lone-ly tee-nage bron-cin' buck
Am C
With a pink car-na-tion and a pick-up truck
G D Em
But I knew I was out of luck___
C D7 | G - C | G |
The day the mu-sic died... I started singin'

G C G D
 Chorus: Bye-bye, Miss A-me-ri-can Pie
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G Am
 2. Now for ten years we've been on our own
 C Am
 And moss grows fat on a rol-lin' stone
 Em D | D |
 But that's not how it used to be
 G D Em
 When the jes-ter sang for the king and queen
 Am C
 In a coat he bor-rowed from James Dean
 Em A7 D | D |
 In a voice that came from you and me

Em D
 Oh, and while the king was look-ing down
 Em D
 The jes-ter stole his thor-ny crown
 C G A7 C D7
 The court-room was ad-journed___ No ver-dict was re-turned
 G D Em Am C
 And while Le-nin read a book on Marx___ A quar-tet prac-ticed in the park
 G D Em
 And we sang dir-ges in the dark___
 C D7 | G - C | G |
 The day the mus-ic died... We were singin'

G C G D
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3. Hel-ter skel-ter in a sum-mer swel-ter
 The birds flew off with a fall-out shel-ter
 Eight miles high and fal-ling fa-ast
 It lan-ded foul on the grass___ The play-ers tried for a for-ward pass
 With the jes-ter on the side-lines in a cast

Now the half-time air was sweet per-fume
 While the ser-geants played a march-ing tune
 We all got up to dance___ Oh, but we ne-ver got the chance

'Cause the play-ers tried to take the field
 The march-ing band re-fused to yield
 Do you re-call what was re-vealed
 The day the mu-sic died? ... We started sing-in'

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4. Oh, and there we were all in one place___ A gen-e-ra-tion lost in space
 With no time left to start again
 So come on, Jack be nim-ble, Jack be quick
 Jack Flash sat on a can-dle-stick
 'Cause fire is the de-vil's on-ly friend

Oh, and as I watched him on the stage
 My hands were clenched in fists of rage
 No an-gel born in Hell___ Could break that Sa-tan's spell

And as the flames climbed high in-to the night
 To light the sac-ri-fi-cial rite
 I saw Sa-tan laug-hing with delight
 The day the mu-sic died... He was sing-in'

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 Em D7
 This'll be the day that I die"...

Outro: G D Em Am C
 I met a girl who sang the blues___ And I asked her for some hap-py news
 Em D | D |
 But she just smiled and turned a-way
 G D Em
 I went down to the sa-cred store
 Am C
 Where I'd heard the mu-sic years be-fore
 Em A7 D | D |
 But the man there said the mu-sic would-n't play
 Em D
 And in the streets, the chil-dren screamed
 Em D
 The lo-vers cried and the po-ets dreamed
 C G A7 C D
 But not a word was spo-ken___ The church bells all were bro-ken
 G D Em C D7
 And the three men I ad-mire most___ The Fa-ther, Son and the Ho-ly Ghost
 G D Em
 They caught the last train for the coast
 C D7 | G - C | G |
 The day the mu-sic died... And they were singin'

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