

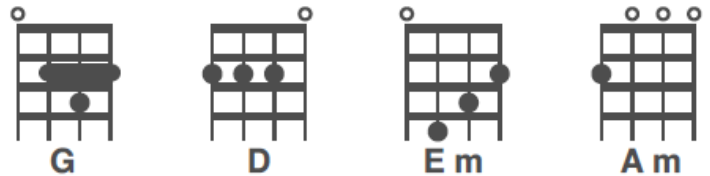
**INTRO (hold each chord):**

**G 1/2 D 1/2 Em**  
 A long long time ago  
**Am C**  
 I can still remember  
**Em D D(fc)**  
 How that music used to make me smile  
**G 1/2 D 1/2 Em**  
 And I knew that if I had one chance  
**Am C**  
 I could make those people dance  
**Em C D D**  
 And maybe they'd be happy for awhile

**Hold Each Chord:**

1 2 3 4 or 1 2 3 4  
 1/2 1/2 1 1 1

**Em Am**  
 But February made me shiver  
**Em Am**  
 With every paper I'd deliver  
**C 1/2 G 1/2 Am**  
 Bad news on the doorstep  
**C D**  
 I couldn't take one more step



**G 1/2 D 1/2 Em**  
 I can't remember if I cried  
**Am D**  
 When I read about his widowed bride  
**G 1/2 D 1/2 Em**  
 Something touched me deep inside  
**C D7 G G**  
 The day the music died



So

**Chorus Strum Pattern:**

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
 D D U D D U

**CHORUS:**

**G 1/2 C 1/2 G 1/2 D 1/2**  
 Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G 1/2 C 1/2 G 1/2 D 1/2**  
 Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G 1/2 C 1/2 G 1/2 D 1/2**  
 And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold) A7 (hold)**  
 Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold) D7 . . . .**  
 This'll be the day that I die

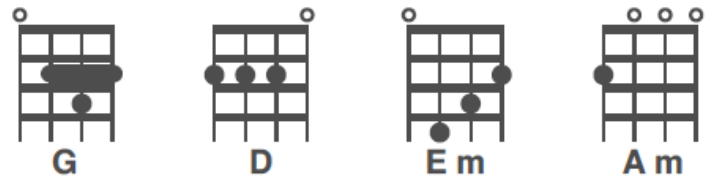
## VERSE 1 (Folk Strum):

**G** **Am**  
Did you write the book of love  
**C** **Am**  
And do you have faith in God above  
**Em** **D** **D**  
If the Bible tells you so?  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
Do you believe in rock and roll?  
**A7** **C**  
Can music save your mortal soul?  
**Em** **A7** **D** **D**  
And can you teach me how to dance real slow?

## Folk Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U U D U

**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
Well, I know that you're in love with him  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
'Cause I saw you dancin' in the gym  
**C ½** **G ½** **D**  
You both kicked off your shoes  
**C(dd)** **G(dd)** **D7**  
Man, I dig those rhythm and blues



**G (dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
I was a lonely teenage broncin' buck  
**Am** **C**  
With a pink carnation and a pickup truck  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
But I knew I was out of luck  
**C** **D7**  
The day the music died  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
I started singin'



## CHORUS:

**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D**  
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold)** **A7 (hold)**  
Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold)** **D7 . . . .**  
This'll be the day that I die

## Chorus Strum Pattern:

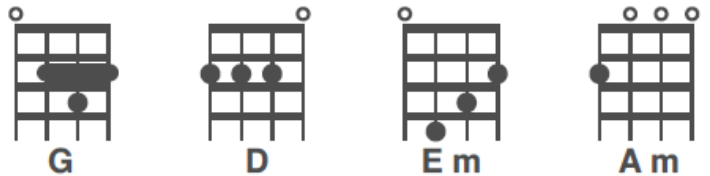
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U D D U

## VERSE 2 (Folk Strum):

**G** **Am**  
Now, for ten years we've been on our own  
**C** **Am** **Em**  
And moss grows fat on a rolling stone  
**D** **D**  
But, that's not how it used to be  
**G (dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
When the jester sang for the king and queen  
**A7** **C**  
In a coat he borrowed from James Dean  
**Em** **A7** **D** **D**  
And a voice that came from you and me  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
Oh and while the king was looking down  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
The jester stole his thorny crown  
**C ½** **G ½** **D**  
The courtroom was adjourned  
**C** **D7**  
No verdict was returned  
**G(dd)** **D/F#(dd)** **Em**  
And while Lenin read a book on Marx  
**Am** **C**  
The quartet practiced in the park  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
And we sang dirges in the dark  
**C** **D7**  
The day the music died  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
We were singin'

## Folk Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U U D U



## CHORUS:

**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D**  
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold)** **A7 (hold)**  
Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold)** **D7 . . . .**  
This'll be the day that I die

## Chorus Strum Pattern:

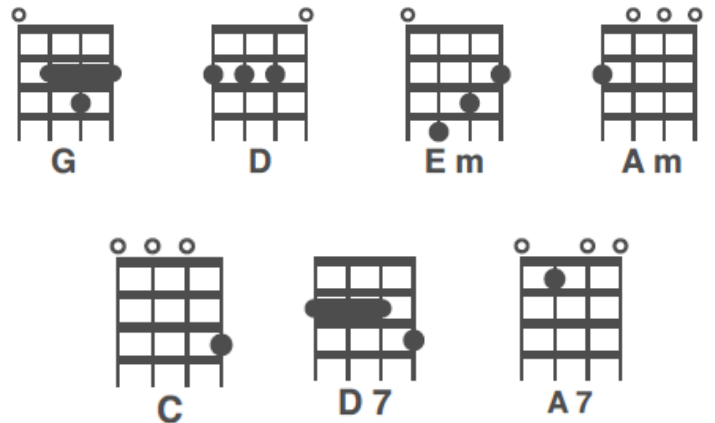
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U D D U

### VERSE 3 (Folk Strum):

**G** **Am**  
Helter skelter in a summer swelter  
**C** **Am**  
The birds flew off with a fallout shelter  
**Em** **D** **D**  
Eight miles high and falling fast  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
It landed foul out on the grass  
**A7** **C**  
The players tried for a forward pass  
**Em** **A7** **D** **D**  
With the jester on the sidelines in a cast  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
Now the half-time air was sweet perfume  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
While the sergeants played a marching tune  
**C ½** **G ½** **D**  
We all got up to dance  
**C** **D7**  
Oh, but we never got the chance  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
'Cause the players tried to take the field  
**Am** **C**  
The marching band refused to yield  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
Do you recall what was revealed  
**C** **D7**  
The day the music died?  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
We started singin'

### Folk Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U U D U



### CHORUS:

**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D**  
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold)** **A7 (hold)**  
Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold)** **D7 . . . .**  
This'll be the day that I die

### Chorus Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U D D U

## VERSE 4 (Folk Strum):

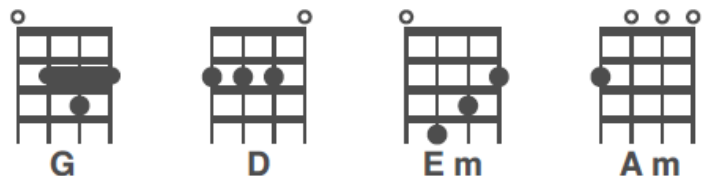
**G** **Am**  
Oh, and there we were all in one place  
**C** **Am**  
A generation lost in space  
**Em** **D** **D**  
With no time left to start again  
**G** **Em**  
So come on Jack be nimble, Jack be quick  
**A7** **C**  
Jack Flash sat on a candlestick  
**Em** **A7** **D** **D**  
'Cause the fire is the devil's only friend  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
Oh and as I watched him on the stage  
**Em (hold)** **D (hold)**  
My hands were clenched in fists of rage  
**C ½** **G ½** **D**  
No angel born in Hell  
**C** **D7**  
Could break that Satan's spell  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
And as the flames climbed high into the night  
**Am** **C**  
To light the sacrificial rite  
**G(dd)** **D(dd)** **Em**  
I saw Satan laughing with delight  
**C** **D7**  
The day the music died  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
He was singin'

## CHORUS:

**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D**  
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G ½** **C ½** **G ½** **D ½**  
And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold)** **A7 (hold)**  
Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold)** **D7 . . . .**  
This'll be the day that I die

## Folk Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U U D U

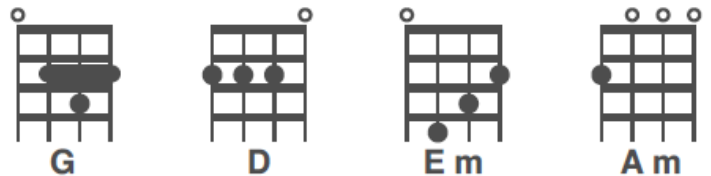


## Chorus Strum Pattern:

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
D D U D D U

**VERSE 5 (hold each chord):**

**G ½ D ½ Em**  
 I met a girl who sang the blues  
**Am C**  
 And I asked her for some happy news  
**Em D D**  
 But she just smiled and turned away  
**G ½ D ½ A7**  
 I went down to the sacred store  
**Am C**  
 Where I'd heard the music years before  
**Em A7 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 ½ G ½ Am**  
 But not a word was spoken  
**C D7**  
 The church bells all were broken  
**G ½ D ½ Em**  
 And the three men I admire most  
**A7 C**  
 The Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost  
**G ½ D ½ Em**  
 They caught the last train for the coast  
**C D7**  
 The day the music died  
**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**  
 And they were singin'



**CHORUS (lightly):**

**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**  
 Bye, bye Miss American Pie  
**G ½ C ½ G ½ D**  
 Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry  
**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**  
 And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye  
**Em (hold) A7 (hold)**  
 Singin' this'll be the day that I die  
**Em (hold) D7 (hold)**  
 This'll be the day that I die

**Chorus Strum Pattern:**

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
 D D U D D U

They were singing

**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**

Bye, bye Miss American Pie

**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**

Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry

**G ½ C ½ G ½ D ½**

And them good ole boys were drinking whiskey and rye

**C ½ D ½ G ½ (hold) C ½ (hold) G (hold)**

Singin' this'll be the day that I die

**Chorus Strum Pattern:**

1	&	2	&	3	&	4	&
D		D	U	D		D	U