

American Pie

Don McLean

1. **G D Em**
A long, long time ago,
Am C Em D
I can still remember how that music used to make me smile
G D Em
And I knew if I had my chance,
Am C Em C D
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 Am7 D
I can't remember if I cried when I read about his widowed bride
G D Em
Something touched me deep inside
C D7 G C G
The day the music died

G C G D
R: So bye, bye Miss American Pie
G C G D
Drove my Chevy to the levy but the levy was dry
G C G D
And them good old boys were drinkin' whiskey and rye
Em A7 Em D7
Singin' this will be the day that I die, this will be the day that I die

G Am
2. Did you write the book of love
C Am Em D
And do you have faith in God above, if the bible tells you so?
G D Em
Do you believe in rock and roll
Am7 C Em A7 D
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 'cuz I saw you dancin' in the gym
C G Am C D7
You both kicked off your shoes, man I dig those rhythm and blues
G D Em Am C
I was a lonely teenage bronckin' buck with a pink carnation and a pickup truck
G D Em C D7 G C G D
But I knew I was out of luck the day the music died, I started singin'

G C G D
R: So bye, bye Miss American Pie...

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

When the jester sang for the king and queen

Am7 C Em A7 D
in a coat he borrowed from James Dean in a voice that came from you and me
Em* D* Em* D*
Oh, and while the king was looking down, the jester stole his thorny crown
C G A7 C D7
The courtroom was adjourned, no verdict was returned
G D Em Am C
And while Lennin read a book on Marx, the quartet practiced in the park
G D Em C D7 G C G D
And we sang dirges in the dark the day the music died, we were singin'

G C G D
R: So bye, bye Miss American Pie...

G Am
5. And there we were all in one place
C Am Em D
a generation lost in space, with no time left to start again
G D Em Am7 C
So come on Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, Jack Flash sat on a candlestick
Em A7 D
'cause fire is the devil's only friend
Em* D* Em* D*
And as I watched him on the stage, my hands were clenched in fists of rage
C G A7 C D7
No angel born in Hell could break that Satan's spell
G D Em Am C
And as the flames climbed high into the night to light the sacrificial ri
te
G D Em C D7 G C G D
I saw Satan laughing with delight the day the music died, he was singin

G C G D
R: So bye, bye Miss American Pie

G C G D
Drove my Chevy to the levy but the levy was dry
G C G D
And them good old boys were drinkin' whiskey and rye
Em A7 Em D7
Singin' this will be the day that I die, this will be the day that I die

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