

# AMERICAN PIE

(INTRO) [G] A [D] long, long [Em] time ago  
[Am] I can still remember  
How that [C] music used to [Em] make me [D] smile -  
And [G] I knew [D] if I had my [Em] chance  
That [Am] I could make those [C] people dance  
And [Em] maybe they'd be [C] happy for a [D] while

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

I [G] can't re- [D] member [Em] if I cried  
When I [Am] read about his [C] widowed bride  
[G] Something [D] touched me [Em] deep inside  
The [C] day the [D] music [G] died

(CHORUS) So [G] bye, [C] bye Miss [G] American [D] Pie  
Drove my [G] Chevy to the [C] levy but the [G] levy was [D] dry  
And them [G] good old [C] boys  
Were drinkin' [G] whiskey and [D] rye  
Singin' [Em] "This will be the day that I [A7] die  
[Em] This will be the day that I [D] die!"

(VERSE 1) [G] Did you write the [Am] book of love  
And do [C] you have faith in god above,  
[Em] if the bible [D] tells you so?  
Do [G] you be- [D] lieve in [Em] rock and roll  
Can [Am7] music save your [C] mortal soul  
And [Em] can you teach me [A7] how to dance real [D] slow?

Well I [Em] know that you're in [D] love with him  
'Cause I [Em] saw you dancin' [D] in the gym  
You [C] both kicked off your [Am] shoes  
Man I [C] dig those rhythm and [D] blues!

I was a [G] lonely [D] teenage [Em] broncin' buck  
With a [Am] pink carnation and a [C] pickup truck  
But [G] I knew [D] [Em] I was out of luck  
The [C] day the [D] music [G - C] died!  
[G] I started [D] singin': *[chorus]*

(VERSE 2) Now [G] for ten years we've been [Am] on our own  
And [C] moss grows fat on a [Am] rolling stone  
But [Em] that's not how it [D] used to be  
When the [G] jester [D] sang for the [Em] king and queen  
In a [Am] coat he borrowed [C] from James Dean  
[Em] And in a voice that [A7] came from you and [D] me

And [Em] while the king was [D] looking down  
The [Em] jester stole his [D] thorny crown  
The [C] courtroom [G] was ad- [Am] journed  
No [C] verdict was re- [D] turned  
And while [G] Lenin [D] read a [Em] book on Marx  
The [C] quartet practiced [Am] in the park  
And [G] we sang [D] dirges [Em] in the dark  
The [C] day the [D] music [G - C] died -  
[G] We were [D] singin': *[chorus]*

(VERSE 3) [G] Helter skelter in a [Am] summer swelter  
The [C] birds flew off with a [Am] fallout shelter  
[Em] Eight miles high and [D] fallin' fast  
It [G] landed [D] foul upon the [Em] grass  
So the [Am7] players tried for a [C] forward pass  
With the [G] jester on the [A7] sidelines in a [D] cast

Now at [Em] halftime there was [D] sweet perfume  
While [Em] sergeants played a [D] marching tune  
We [C] all got [G] up to [Am] dance  
But we [C] never got the [D] chance  
When the [G] players [D] tried to [Em] take the field  
The [Am] marching band re- [C] fused to yield  
Do [G] you re- [D] call what [Em] was the feel [revealed]  
the [C] day the [D] music [G-C] died?  
[G] We started [D] singin':

(VERSE 4) And [G] there we were all [Am] in one place  
A [C] generation [Am] lost in space  
With [Em] no time left to [D] start again  
So [G] Jack be [D] nimble, [Em] Jack be quick,  
[Am] Jack Flash sat on a [C] candle stick  
Because [Em] fire is the devil's [A7] only [D] friend

And [Em] as I watched him [D] on the stage  
My [Em] hands were clenched in [D] fists of rage  
No [C] angel born in [Am] Hell  
Could [C] break that Satan's [D] spell

And [G] as the flames climbed [D] high in- [Em] to the night  
To [Am] light the sacri- [C] ficial rite  
I saw [G] Satan [D] laughing with de- [Em] light  
The [G] day the [C] music [G-C] died -  
[G] He was [D] singin': *[chorus]*

(VERSE 5) I [G] met a [D] girl who [Em] sang the blues  
And I [Am] asked her for some [C] happy news  
But [Em] she just smiled and [D] turned away  
[G] Then I went [D] down to the [Em] sacred store  
Where I'd [Am] heard the music [C] years before  
But the [Em] man there said the [C] music wouldn't [D] play

But [Em] in the streets the [Am] children screamed  
The [Em] lovers cried and the [Am] poets dreamed  
But [C] not a [G] word was [Am] spoken -  
The [C] church bells all were [D] broken

And the [G] three men [D] I ad- [Em] mire most  
The [Am] Father, Son, and the [C] Holy Ghost  
They [G] caught the [D] last train [Em] for the coast  
The [Am] day the [D] music [G-C] died -  
[G] And they were [D] singin': *[chorus]*