

Mercury
Counting Crows

#

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From: Michael A. Mazur

Transcribed by Michael A. Mazur (*)

Guitar 1 is an acoustic, tuned to open Eb (Eb Bb Eb G Bb Eb)

Guitar 2 is a mandolin, tuned down 1/2 step (Gb Db Ab Eb)

Note: Watch the time signature here. The main riff is in 14/8, which I think of as a measure of 6 followed by a measure of 8 (as I indicate below). But, the rest of the song is in 8/8, and the shifts from 14/8 to 8/8 and back again are subtle.

Intro and main riff:

| | | | |
|----|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| | -----0----- | -----0----- | |
| | -----0--2/32- | -----0-----0----- | |
| 14 | -----2/32- | -0-----0-- | Guitar 1 (all of guitar 1 |
| 8 | -----2/32- | -0----- | is played with a slide) |
| | -----2/32- | -0----- | |
| | --0----- | -0-----0----- | |
| | (6/8) | (8/8) | |

Verse: (guitar 1 plays main riff over Eb)

| | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | /5-----5----- | |
| | /5--5-----5----- | |
| 8 | /5-----5--5--5----- | Guitar 1 plays this for the Ab chord |
| 8 | /5-----5-----5-- | (note the change to 8/8) |
| | /5-----5----- | |
| | /5-----5----- | |

Eb

She is trapped inside a month of grey
And they take a little every day

Ab

She is a victim of her own responses

Eb

Shackled to a heart that wants to settle
And the runs away

Chorus:

| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| | Bb | Ab |
| | /7-----7----- | /5-----5----- |
| | /7--7-----7----- | /5--5-----5----- |

|8|/7-----7--7--7-----|/5-----5--5--5-----| Guitar 1
 |8|/7-----7-----7--|/5-----5-----5--| (again in 8/8)
 | |/7-----7-----|/5-----5-----|
 | |/7-----7-----|/5-----5-----|

Bb Ab

It s a sin to be fading endlessly
 Eb (guitar 1 plays main riff)
 Yeah, but she s alright with me

She is leaving on a walkaway
 She is leaving me in disarray
 In the absence of a place to be
 She stands there looking back at me
 Hesitates, and then turns away
 She ll change so suddenly
 She s just like mercury
 Yeah, but she s alright with me

Bridge:

|/12--|
 |/12--|
 |/12--| Guitar 1 plays this at the end of the chorus, and then
 |/12--| plays the main riff over the bridge
 |/12--|
 |/12--|

|-----|
 |--7--7--7--7--9--9b(10)r9--9--| Guitar 2 (trem. picked)
 |-----|
 |-----|

(Guitar 1 plays last 8/14 of main riff once)

Keep some sorrow in your
 hearts and minds
 For the things that die before their time
 For the restlessly abandoned homes
 The tired and weary rambler s bones
 And stay beside me where I lie
 She s entwined in me
 Crazy as can be
 Yeah, but she s alright with me