

**Respectable**  
**Don McLean**

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Respectable

transcribed by Alex Ceserani

**Em G C D**  
Ah, it aint so easy is it? you almost lost your place.  
**G Am C D**  
And perhaps youre wondering how youre going to cope with your disgrace.  
**G Am C D**  
Well your wealth is well established and your friends were never few,  
(hold **D**) **G**  
And all the things they told you of youre finding to be true.  
**Am C D**  
Well if truth can free the guilty while the innocent must die,  
**G (Am) C D G**  
Then I respect, respect, respect the coldest lie.

**Em G C D**  
And you talk of human justice while you drive on fancy wheels.  
**G Am C D**  
And you push them to their limit just to see how nice it feels.  
**G Am C D**  
Well it doesnt really matter if shes living or shes dead,  
(hold **D**) **G**  
You just drive away forgetting that your bumpers dipped in red.  
**Am C D**  
Well if thats the kind of justice that our hall of justice claims,  
**G (Am) C D G**  
Then I respect, respect, respect old jesse james.

**Em G C D**  
And most cordially they caught you and they asked you to obey.  
**G Am C D**  
And they threw you into prison, just in case you could not pay.  
**G Am C D**  
Well King Arthur jousted Lancelot, who stole away his wife;  
(hold **D**) **G**  
And your lawyers jousted with the court to save your precious life.  
**Am C D**  
Well if living is what matters though you lie with every breath,  
**G (Am) C D G**  
Then I respect, respect, the ones we put to death.

**Em G C D**

And you won your case most easily and soon you will be free.

**G Am C D**

But there will be a million more who lose their liberty.

**G Am C D**

Not because of what they did, but what they did not do:

(hold **D**) **G**

They did not pay a lawyer or a judge to see them through.

**Am C D**

Why, they had no friends to call on and they could not raise their bail.

**G (Am) C D G**

Well if winning is what matters, I respect the ones who fail.