

Stranger With The Melodies
Harry Chapin

#-----PLEASE NOTE-----#
#This file is the author s own work and represents their interpretation of the #
#song. You may only use this file for private study, scholarship, or research. #
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Stranger With The Melodies Harry Chapin
As recorded (approximately :)) on Legends of the Lost and Found

Information:

TAB: one space equals one eighth note

[tab]main pattern repeats through out song (note variations at end of choruses):

D	D/G	D/E	D/A
e ----3--- 2---0--- ----3--- 2---0--- ----3--- 2---0--- ----3--- 2---0---			
B --3---3- --2---3- --3---3- --2---3- --3---3- --2---3- --3---3- --2---3-			
G -2-2-2-2 -3-3-2-2 -2-2-2-2 -3-3-2-2 -2-2-2-2 -3-3-2-2 -2-2-2-2 -3-3-2-2			
D 0----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----			
A ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- 0----- -----			
E ----- ----- 3----- ----(2)- 0----- ----- ----- -----			

[tab]end of verse progression:

A	A7	A6	A
E A D G B E	E A D G B E	E A D G B E	E A D G B E
o-o-----o	o-o-----	o-o-----	o-o-----o
2 2 2	2 2 2	2 2 2 2	2 2 2
	3		

other verse pattern (I don t know the pick pattern, so I just strum these):

Bm F Am Em
F Em G A A7 A6 A

last chord:

D (final)

[tab]**E A D G B E**

x o o[/tab]

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| | | 7 7 |
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| | | | | |
| | | | | 10
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INTRO:

D D/G D/E D/A

D D/G D/E D/A

[tab] **D**

It was my first night in that room in house, [/tab]

[tab] **D/G**

in the last room down the hall. [/tab]

[tab] **D/E**

I heard a hoarse voice, and an old guitar, [/tab]

[tab] **D/A**

comin through the paper thin walls. [/tab]

[tab] **D**

A crazy nonsense nursery rhyme, [/tab]

[tab] **D/G**

it did not mean a thing. [/tab]

[tab] **D/E**

But for the first of what was to be a thousand times, [/tab]

[tab] **D/A**

this is what I heard him sing. [/tab]

CHORUS:

[tab] **D**

Hold that "D" chord on the old guitar, [/tab]

[tab] **D/G**

till I find the "G." [/tab]

[tab] **D/E**

Drop it down to old "E" minor, [/tab]

[tab] **D/A** **D** **D/A**

till the "A" chord rolls back home around to "D." [/tab]

[tab] **D** **D/G**

I had to lay there listening, it seemed he was in the room. [/tab]

[tab] **D/E** **D/A**

The stranger with the melodies, singin there in the gloom. [/tab]

[tab] **Bm** **F**

And he repeated it over and over again, such a soft and sinking sound. [/tab]

[tab] **Am** **Em**

It was kind of like a music box that was slowly windin down. [/tab]

[tab] **F** **Em**

And he sang it, he hummed it, he whistled it, and he strummed it. [/tab]

[tab] **G** **A** **A** **A7** **A6**

He laughed it, and he cried it. He did anything but hide it. [/tab]

CHORUS:

[tab] **A** **D**

Hold that "D" chord on the old guitar, [/tab]

[tab] **D/G**

till I find the "G." [/tab]

[tab] **D/E**

Drop it down to old "E" minor, [/tab]

[tab] **D/A** **D** **D/A**

till the "A" chord rolls back home around to me. [/tab]

[tab] **D** **D/G**
So I lay there in that lumpy bed, counted choruses instead of sheep, [/tab]
[tab] **D/E** **D/A**
till I banged on the wall and out I called, "Hey bub, I need some sleep." [/tab]
(D) (stop pattern, just base) (G)
A sudden void of silence, then I heard that hoarse voice say,
[tab](**E**) (**A**) **D** (resume pattern) **D/A**
"It weren t so long ago, boy, they paid me to play. [/tab]
[tab] **D** **D/G**
So I said, "It s kind of late for music, sir. Two hours till it s
daylight." [/tab]
[tab] **D/E** **D/A**
He answered, "I need my music most in these dark hours of the night. [/tab]
[tab] **Em** **F**
You see I ve tried gettin high on somethin , son; it only brings me down. [/tab]
[tab] **Am** **Em**
Stayin dry don t work out better, boy, cause my eyes get wet and I
drown. [/tab]
[tab] **F** **Em**
Won t you please let me continue, and I ll be in your debt. [/tab]
[tab] **G** **A** **A** **A7**
A6
You see I m not singin to remember, son. I m just singin to forget. [/tab]

CHORUS:

[tab] **A** **D**
Hold that "D" chord on the old guitar, [/tab]
[tab] **D/G**
till I find the "G." [/tab]
[tab] **D/E**
Drop it down to old "E" minor, [/tab]
[tab] **D/A** **D** **D(strum)** **D(strum)** **A**
till the "A" chord rolls back home around to me. [/tab]

[tab] **C** **G**
That s when I said, if I m supposed to listen to you, sir, [/tab]
[tab]**C** **G**
one quick question, then. [/tab]
[tab]**F** **C** **A**
Why in the hell do you sing one song, over and over again? [/tab]

(spoken) And this is what he said.

[tab]**D** **D** **D** **D/G**
I gave her the music, son. She gave me the words. [/tab]
[tab] **D/E** **D/A**
Together we d write the kinds of songs the angels must have heard. [/tab]
[tab] **D** **D/G**
Of course, we d fight like cats and dogs; life ain t no rosebud dream. [/tab]

[tab] **D/E** **D/A**
 Still, where ever we d go, everybody d know, we were truly a team.[/tab]
 [tab] **D** **D/G**
 I can t remember now if I d done her wrong, or if she d done wrong to me.[/tab]
 [tab] **D/E** **D/A**
 Still, all I know is when I let her go, it did not set me free.[/tab]
 [tab] **Em**
 That s when I said, "You sound like what s-his-name."[/tab]
 [tab] **F**
 He said, "That s who I am.[/tab]
 [tab] **Am**
 But you can t wrap a name around you boy,[/tab]
 [tab] **Em**
 cause it really don t mean a damn.[/tab]
 [tab] **F** **Em**
 You see, a song don t have no meanin , when it don t have nothin to say.[/tab]
 [tab] **G** **A** **A** **A7** **A6** **A**
 What she could do was magic, son. All I can do is play.[/tab]
 [tab] **D**
 He started singin again, that s when I drifted off,[/tab]
 [tab] **D/G**
 and maybe I d dreamed what I d heard,[/tab]
 [tab] **D/E**
 about the stranger with the melodies,[/tab]
 [tab] **D/A**
 who d gone and lost the words.[/tab]

CHORUS:

[tab] **D**
 Hold that "D" chord on the old guitar,[/tab]
 [tab] **D/G**
 till I find the "G."[/tab]
 [tab] **D/E**
 Drop it down to old "E" minor,[/tab]
 [tab] **D/A** **D** **D(final)**
 till the "A" chord rolls back home around to "D."[/tab]

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----- There is a fine difference between insight and insanity. -----