

The Shortest Story
Harry Chapin

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Date: Sat, 21 Feb 1998 03:48:34 -0800
From: Jed <Jed.Reinitz@oberlin.edu>
Subject: The Shortest Story by Harry Chapin

LISTEN TO THE SONG ON "GREATEST SONGS LIVE" TO UNDESTAND.

STRUM C CHORD SLOWLY
PLUCK C ON THE B STRING AND THE OPEN G STRING TOGETHOR THREE TIME

[tab] C G F G Em (STRUM Em
SLOWLY)[/tab]

I am born today, the sun burns its promise in my eyes;

[tab] F G C Em Am
Mama strikes me and I draw a breath and cry.[/tab]

[tab] F G C Em Am
Above me a cloud softly tumbles through the sky;[/tab]

[tab] G G F
I am glad to be alive.[/tab]

>G F

[tab] C G F G Em (STRUM Em SLOW)
It is me seventh day, I taste the hunger and I cry;[/tab]

[tab] F G C Em Am
my brother and sister cling to Mama s side.[/tab]

[tab] F G C Em Am
She squeezes her breast, but it has nothing to provide;[/tab]

[tab] G G F
someone weeps, I fall asleep.[/tab]

>**G** **F**

[tab] **C** **G** **F** **G** **Em** (STRUM)
It is twenty days today, Mama does not hold me anymore;[/tab]

[tab] **F** **G** **C** **Em** **Am**
I open my mouth but I am too weak to cry.[/tab]

[tab] **F** **G** **C** **Em** **Am**
Above me a bird slowly crawls across the sky;[/tab]

[tab] **G** **G** **Am**
why is there nothing now to do but die?[/tab]