

Fare Thee Well
Indigo Girls

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FARE THEE WELL (Emily Saliers)

[Actually in F#; capo 6.]

[Tune both E strings down to D.]

[Complete tablature is at the end.]

[Some of the chord names are kind of strange; this is what happens when you use alternate tunings. Refer to the tab at the end for fingerings.]

[Thanks to Rich Tebb and Mark Coiley for the collaboration on the tab.]

C G(4)/F Em7 Am9 F6(#4) G C(9) G(4)/B
[intro]

C G7/F Em7 Am7
Fare thee well, my bright star
F6(#4) G C(9) G(4)/B
I watched your taillights blaze into nothingness
C G7/F Em7 Am9
But you were long gone before I ever got to you
F6(#4) G Am9 Am7
Before you blazed past this address

Dm7(4) C(9)/E F6(9) G
And now I think of having loved and having lost
Dm7(4) C(9)/E F6(9) G7
You never know what it s like to never love
Who can say what s better when my heart s become the cost
Am7 D11/A G9/D G9
A mere token of a brighter jewel sent from up above

Fare thee well, my bright star
The vanity of youth, the color of your eyes
Maybe if I d fanned the blazing fire of your day-to-day
Or if I d been older I d been wise

Too thick the heat of those long summer evenings
For a cool evening I began to yearn
But you could only feed upon the things which feed a fire
Waiting to see if I would burn

Fare thee well, my bright star

It was a brief brilliant miracle dive
 That which I looked up to and I clung to for dear life

F6(#4) G - G#dim Am9 Am7
 Had to burn itself up just to make itself alive

And I caught you then, in your moment of glory
 Your last dramatic scene against a night sky stage
 With a memory so clear it s as if you re still before me
 My once in a lifetime star of an age

So fare thee well, my bright star
 Last night the tongues of fire circled me around
 And this strange season of pain will come to pass
 When the healing hands of autumn cool me down

TAB:

[An equal sign is a hammer-on; / is a slide.]
 [Play all the notes on the lower three strings with your thumb.]
 [Each verse might have a few more or less notes, but the same fingerings.
 The only big difference is the extra G#dim (6x0x0x) in verse 3.]
 [Actually, you can play it without tuning the high E down, if you want to
 avoid the risk of string breakage. The only adjustment you have to make
 is in the second measure of the intro, and also on the easy version of
 the G9 measures.]

C	G(4)/F	Em7	Am9
D -----	0-----0-----	-----	-----
B -----1-----	-----1-----	-----0-----	0=1---0-----
G -----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0---0-----
D ----2-----2---	----0-----0---	----0-----0---	----2-----0---
A 3-----3-----	-----	-----2-----	0-----0-----
D -----	3-----3-----	2-----	-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^

[intro]

F6(#4)	G	C(9)	G(4)/B
D -----	-----	-----	-----
B -----0-----	--0-----0-----	--1-----1-----	--1-----1-----
G -----2-----2-	-----4-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0-----0-
D ----0-----0---	----0-----0---	----0-----0---	----0-----0---
A -----	-----	3-----3-----	2-----2-----
D 3-----3-----/	5-----5-----	-----	-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^

[intro]

C	G7/F	Em7	Am7
D -----	-----	-----	-----
B -----1-----	--3-----3-----	--0-----0-----	1-----1-----
G -----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0-----0-
D ----2-----2---	----0-----0---	----0-----0---	----2-----2---
A 3-----3-----	-----	-----2-----	0-----0-----

D -----|3-----3-----|2-----|-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 Fare thee well, my bright star I watched your

F6(#4) G C(9) G(4)/B
 D -----|-----|-----|-----|
 B -----0-----|--0-----0-----|-----1-----|--1-----1-----|
 G -----2-----2-----|-----4-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|
 D -----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|
 A -----|-----|3-----3-----|2-----2-----|
 D 3-----3-----/5-----5-----|-----|-----|-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 taillights blaze into nothingness

C G7/F Em7 Am9
 D -----|-----|-----|-----|
 B -----1-----|--3-----3-----|--0-----0-----|----- (1?) -0-----|
 G -----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----5-----0-----|
 D -----2-----2-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----2-----2-----|
 A 3-----3-----|-----|-----|2-----2-----|0-----0-----|
 D -----|3-----3-----|2-----|-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 But you were long gone before I ever got to you

F6(#4) G Am9 Am7
 D -----|-----|-----|-----|
 B -----0-----|--0-----0-----|--1--(0?)-1-----|--1-----1-----|
 G -----2-----2-----|-----4-----0-----|-----4-----2-----|-----0-----0-----|
 D -----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----2-----2-----|-----2-----2-----|
 A -----|-----|0-----0-----|0-----0-----|
 D 3-----3-----/5-----5-----|-----|-----|-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 Before you blazed past this address And

Dm7(4) C(9)/E F6(9) G
 D -----|-----|-----|-----|
 B -----1-----|--1-----1-----|--1-----1-----|--3-----3-----|
 G -----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|
 D -----3-----3-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|
 A -----|-----|-----|-----|
 D 0-----0-----|2-----2-----|3-----3-----|5-----5-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 now I think of having loved and having lost You

Dm7(4) C(9)/E F6(9) G7
 D -----|-----|-----|-----|
 B -----1-----|--1-----1-----|--1-----1-----|--0-----0-----|
 G -----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|
 D -----3-----3-----|-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----|-----3-----3-----|
 A -----|-----|-----|-----|
 D 0-----0-----|2-----2-----|3-----3-----/5-----5-----|
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 never know what it s like to never love

Dm7(4)	C(9)/E	F6(9)	G	G#dim
D -----	-----	-----	-----	-----
B -----1-----	--1-----1-----	--1-----1-----	--3-----0---0-	-----
G -----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----0--(4?)---	-----
D ----3-----3---	----0-----0---	----0-----0---	----0-----3---	-----
A -----	-----	-----	-----	-----
D 0-----0-----	2-----2-----	3-----3-----	5-----6-----	-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^

Who can say what s better and my heart s become the cost, a mere

Am7	D(11)/A	G9/D	G9
D -----	-----	-----	-----
B -----1-----	--3-----3-----	--6-----6-----	-----6-----
G -----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----4-----4-	-----0-----
D ----2-----2---	----4-----4---	----7-----7---	----7-----7---
A 0-----0-----	0-----0-----	5-----5-----	-----
D -----	-----	-----	5-----5-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^

token of a brighter jewel sent from above

[Note that in order to do the x5746x chord, you need to use your pinky and ring fingers for the Am7 and D(11//)A, rather than the index and middle fingers. Then you slide up to the next chords, and use the index and middle fingers for the 5 and 4 in the G9. If that s too hard, use the following instead:]

Am7	D(11)/A	G9/D	G9
D -----	-----	--3-----3-----	-----3-----
B -----1-----	--3-----3-----	-----0-----0-	-----
G -----0-----0-	-----0-----0-	-----2-----2---	-----2-0-
D ----2-----2---	----4-----4---	0-----0-----	----0-----
A 0-----0-----	0-----0-----	-----	-----
D -----	-----	-----	5-----5-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^

token of a brighter jewel sent from above

ENDING:

Am(9)	Am(9)	Am(9)	Am(4)
D -----	-----	-----	-----0-----
B --1-----1-----	--1-----1-----	--1-----1-----	-----1-----
G -----4-----4-	-----4-----4-	-----4-----4-	----4-----
D ----2-----2---	----2-----2---	----2-----2---	--2-----
A 0-----0-----	0-----0-----	0-----0-----	0-----
D -----	-----	-----	-----
^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^	^ ^ ^ ^

cool me down....

[Or you can play 0 s on the B string instead of 4 s on the G string; it sounds fine, but then the ending chord has to include a hammer-on from B to C.]

- Adam Schneider, *