

Forbidden City Joe Strummer

Artist: Joe Strummer & The Mescaleros
URL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mescaleros
Song: Forbidden City
Written: Joe Strummer
Album: Rock Art and the X-Ray Style

Background: From the debut album released by Joe Strummer and the Mescaleros in 1999.

Author: Richard Grosser (grosserr@gmail.com)

Tuning: : Capo on 2nd fret
(Hence all chords are up two semitones, or a tone)

Chords:

C: ===== 332010
F7: ===== 130211
F: ===== 133211
G7: ===== 320001
G: ===== 320003
Am: ===== 002210

Notes:

1. All 7th chords are played with the chord oscillating between the 7th and Major form, the up and down strokes. Hence it s easier with barre chords (not shown in the as above).
2. Where the chords are shown with triplets in brackets ...it s a quick, forceful(forte) staccato rhythm.

(Intro)

[Tom-Tom & Bongos, over organ riff, leads into arpeggio chords]

C F7 C G7 F7 C(x3)

Okay, dream of freedom...

Verse 1:

C F7 C
Under the moon in the dragon room
G7 F7 C
Inside the mind of a soul confined
C F7 C
Don t talk about soon in the dragon room
G7 F7 C C(x3) F7(x3)
Under the scream of a jet machine
G7(x3) Am(x3) C(x3) F7(x3)

Who knows in the hills,
C(x3) G7(x6)
Who knows when she will

Chorus:

Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C G7(x3)
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out,
C F7 C G7(x3) C(x3)
...Oh, China, Yeah, China

Verse 2:

C F7 C
Gold silk in a loom in the dragon room
G F7 C
That silk that will be for the flag of the free
C(x3) Am(x3) C(x3) F7(x3)
Who knows in the hills
C(x3) G7(x3)
Who knows when she will

Chorus:

Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
Am C G7(x3)
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out, ...oh, yeah

Refrain:

C F7 C G7(x3) C(x3)
Yeah, China, Whoa-oh, China, ...Yeah, China
(Organ riff over gunfire masked by firecrackers)
C F7 C G7(x3) C(x3)
Yeah ...they got lots of towers, Never pushed someone so far...

Chorus:

C Am F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out
C Am F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out

C	Am	F7
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out		
C	Am	G7 (x3)
When all the hidden pity in the forbidden city comes out,		

Refrain:

C F7 C
...Oh, China

(End)

Footnote:

This is still a very timely song, Joe! In 2008, ...even moreso than a decade ago. :-R