

**Alcohol**  
**The Kinks**

Note: Don't let the 9th and 11th chords put you off. They simply describe the lagging, lazy melody. The melodic pattern descends beautifully as one does into a stupor.

Melody: **E A E G F F**  
Words: Oh demon alcohol..  
Chords: **Am Dm11 Dm**

The melody **G** on Alc is the dominant 7th of **Am** but the 11th of the next chord, **Dm**.

I transcribed it on a piano, where the bass notes alternate sometimes from the 5th to the 1st, at other times from the 1st-5th. I briefly checked it on a guitar, which I can't play but it sounded fine. However, I am not sure about a couple of parts:

Does it really modulate to A major for a few bars?  
Is the Am on the floosie made... right?  
If anyone has a different view of the chorus changes, I'd like to hear them.

Enjoy that meditarraenean/ Kurt Weillian thang!!

yours, Ian

Manchester, England, England.

**Alcohol**

[Intro 16 bars + 16 bars (with trumpet)]

**Am E Am E...Am E Am E7** etc...

**Am**

Here is a story about a sinner,

He used to be a winner who enjoyed a life of prominence and

**E/B**  
position,

But the pressures at the office and his socialite engagements,

**Am**  
And his selfish wife's fanatical ambition,

**A**  
It turned him to the booze,

And he got mixed up with a floosie

**Dm**

And she led him to a life of indecision.

**Am**

The floosie made him spend his dole

She left him lying on Skid Row

**Am E7 E7/B Am E7 Am**

A drunken lag in some Salvation Army Mission.

**E7** (an introductory arpeggio)

It s such a shame.

**Am Dm11 Dm**

Oh demon alcohol,

**Dm E7(b9) E7**

Sad memories I cannot recall,

**Am Dm9 Dm**

Who thought I would say,

**E7 Am11 Am**

Damn it all, blow it all,

**Am Dm11 Dm**

Oh demon alcohol,

**Dm E7(b9) E7**

Memories I can t recall,

**Am Dm9 E7 Am E7 Am**

Who thought I would fall a slave to demon alcohol.

[Repeat Instrumental on line 1, Vocals on 2 and 3 as below]

**Dm E7(b9) E7**

Sad memories I can t recall,

**Am Dm9 E7 Am E7 Am**

Who thought I would fall a slave to demon alcohol.

[16 Bars as intro]

**Am**

Barley wine pink gin,

He ll drink anything,

**E/B**

Port, pernod or tequila,

Rum, scotch, vodka on the rocks,

**Am**

As long as all his troubles disappeared.

**A**

But he messed up his life when he beat up his wife,

**Dm**

And the floosie s gone and found another sucker

**Am**

She s gonna turn him on to drink  
She s gonna lead him to the brink  
And when his money s gone,

**E7 E7/B Am**

She ll leave him in the gutter,

**E7** (ascending roll)

It s such a shame.

**Am Dm11**

Oh demon alcohol,

**Dm E7(b9)**

Sad memories I cannot recall,

**Am Dm9**

Who thought I would fall,

**E7 Am11 Am**

Damn it all, blow it all.

[Instrumental on and the 1st line of Vocals on Lines 2 and 3, as below]

**Dm E7(b9) E7**

Sad memories I cannot recall,

**Am Dm9 E7 Am E7 Am**

Who thought I would fall a slave to demon alcohol.

[A 4 count before the melodic piano outro on the changes of ]