

REAL GOOD AT THEIR CRAFT

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VERSE 1 (waltz): There's

C **F** **G** **F/G**
people who love to play music that's written by white guys from Europe been dead two or three hundred
C
years. This

Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
music is so complicated that sometimes you can't find a melody anywhere hidden in-
G **G+**
side. This old

C **F/C** **G/C** **F/C**
music is so hard to play that the people who do it spent years learning how, from old teachers and
C
players. They

Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Am/D** **Dsus** **D7**
practice for hours each week, and rehearse for events, sometimes pass on their skills to the young and the
G **G+**
old.

[insert Bach prelude #1 from The Well-Tempered Clavier, or anything similar]

VERSE 2: But there's

C **F** **G** **F/G**
always been music that does not require an expert to sing it and play it and have a good
C
time. The

Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
work songs, the folk songs, the gospel and blues came together as simple fun music most people can
G **G+**
play. As Chuck Berry said: "Roll over Bee-

C **F** **C**
thoven, Roll over Beethoven, Roll over Beethoven, Roll over Beethoven, Roll
G **F** **C**
over Beethoven, and give Tchaikovsky the news."

VERSE 3: Millions of

C **F/C** **G/C** **F/C**
customers loved the new music, especially the kids in the US and England and elsewhere a-
C
broad. They

Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
bought lots of records and paraphernalia, chosen depending on whose records sold most last

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G G+

week. While

C

F

G

F

popular music got most of the music fans' money, the market for music by dead white guys

C

shrunk. There's still

Esus

E7

Am

Am/G

Am/D

Dsus

D7

action near cities and schools, but mostly the business depends on donations and government

G G+

funds.

[insert excerpt from Bach **Bb** two-part invention #14, transposed to **C**, or anything similar]

VERSE 4: "We The

C5

F5

G5

F5

People" became mostly hostile to experts, and to any elite thinks they're better than "real people"

C5

are. "Just

E5

A5

Dsus

D5

give me some drums and electric guitar, and a bass you can feel in your gut and will rattle your

G G+

teeth." Don't want to

C

F/C

G/C

F/C

listen to experts play intricate music exactly the way it was written back two hundred

C

years. And they

Esus

E7

Am

Am/G

D

G7

can't stand to listen to jazz anymore, it got fast and complex, just too weird to enjoy with some

C

beers.

CHUCK BERRY: "I got no kick against

G

C

modern jazz, unless they try to play it too darn fast and change the beauty of the

F

G7

melody, until they sound just like a symphony. Just let me hear some of that

C

rock and roll music, any old way you use it. Got a

F

C

backbeat you can't lose it, any old time you use it.

G

C

G

C

Gotta be rock and roll music, if you wanna dance with me . If you wanna dance with me."

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VERSE 5: Ever

C **F** **G** **F**
wonder how old music sounded when it was created by gifted profess'nals who did nothing
C
else? Drop by
Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
sometime and listen to people who studied and practiced for years to be able to play it for
G **G+**
you. There's live
C **F/C** **G/C** **F/C**
concerts on stages, and recitals at schools, performed by our really good violins, woodwinds and
C
brass. Better
Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
catch it real soon, it keeps getting harder to assemble the experts required to put on this
G **G+**
show.

[insert Bach 2-Part Invention #13 in Am, or anything similar]

VERSE 6: The

C **F** **G** **F**
people who wrote this old music were artists, still loved and respected by humans all over the
C
Earth. The
Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Dsus** **D7**
people who labor to keep it alive are just humans with talents and faults, just like everyone
G **G+**
else. They're no
C **F/C** **G/C** **F/C**
better than you in most ways, they just chose to devote time and effort to getting real good at their
C
craft. Just
Esus **E7** **Am** **Am/G** **Am/D** **Dsus** **D7**
open your ears and your mind and you'll hear all the love that went into creating those wonderful
G **G+**
sounds.

[insert end of Beethoven "Fur Elise", or anything similar]