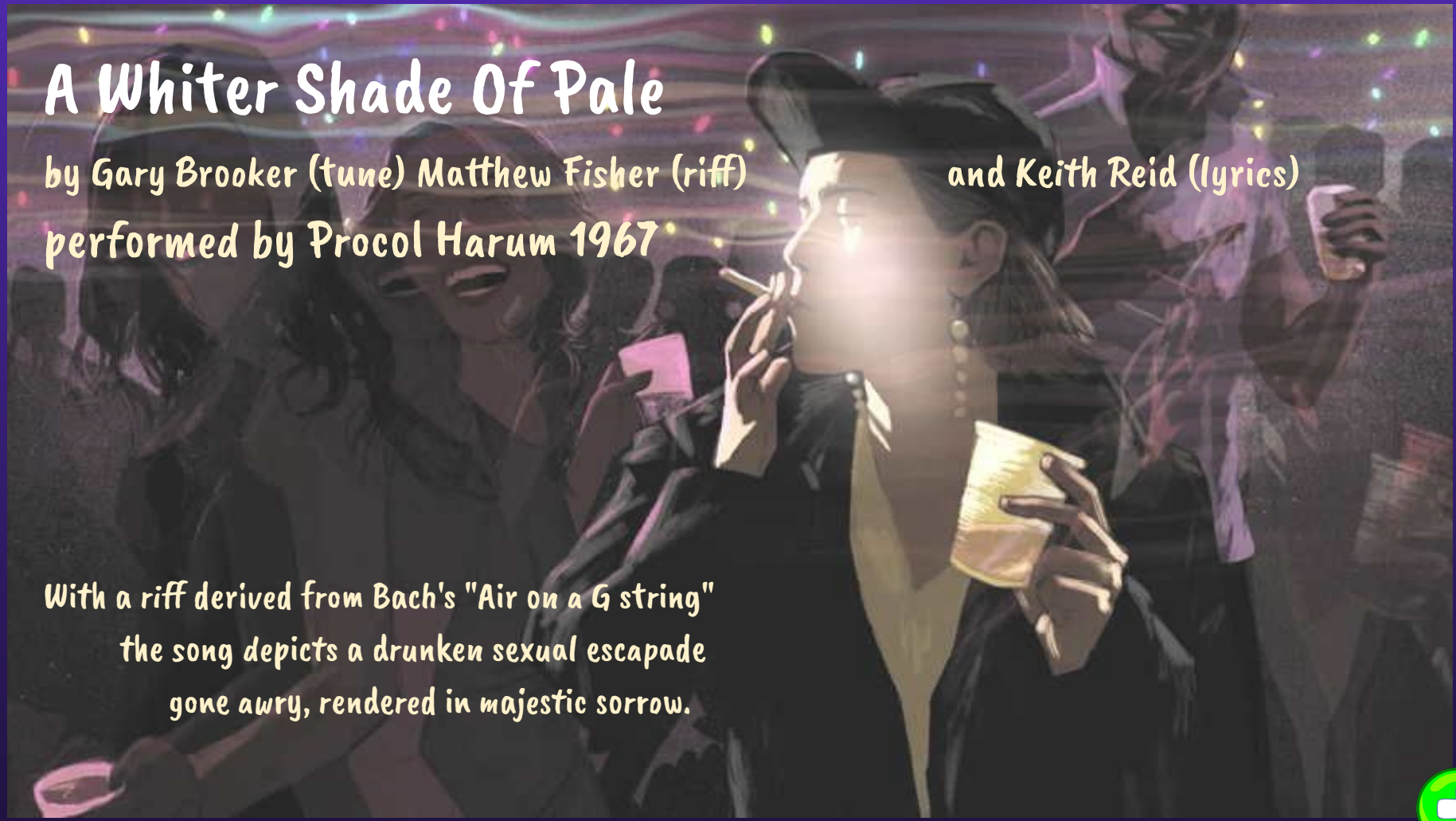
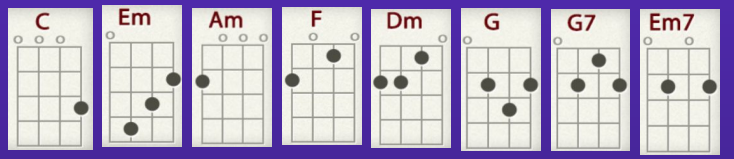

A Whiter Shade Of Pale
by Gary Brooker (tune) Matthew Fisher (riff) and Keith Reid (lyrics)
performed by Procol Harum 1967
With a riff derived from Bach's "Air on a G string"
the song depicts a drunken sexual escapade
gone awry, rendered in majestic sorrow.

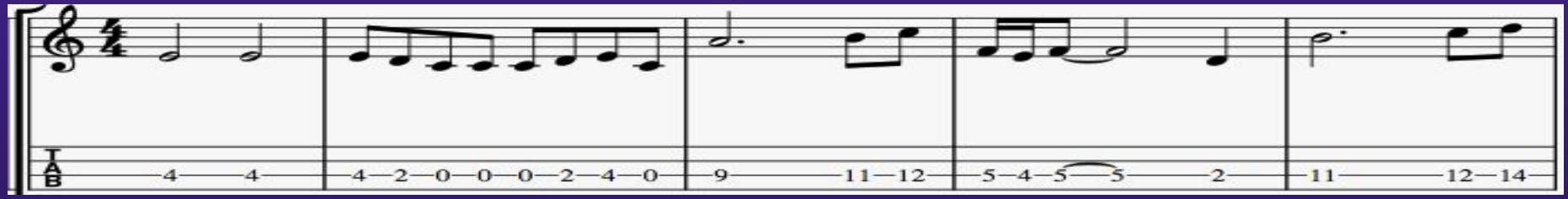
A Whiter Shade Of Pale



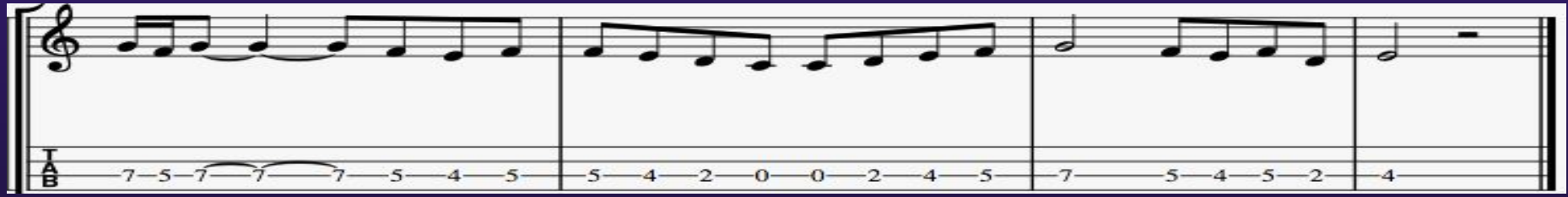
PLAY INTRO STRUM SLOWLY AND LIGHTLY: Dudu Dudu Dudu Dudu

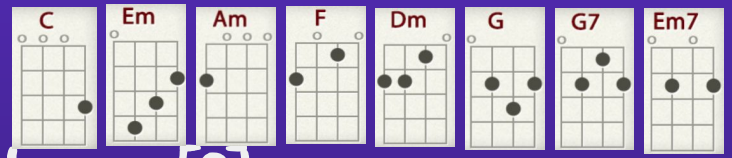
with Riff on the C string:

[C] / [Em] / [Am] / [C] / [F] / [Am] / [Dm] / [F] / [G] / [G7] /



[Em7] / [G7] / [C] / [F] / [C] / [G7] / [C]





FIRST VERSE

[C] -- We [Em] skipped the light fan[Am]dango [C]

[F] -- Turned [Am] cartwheels 'cross the [Dm] floor [F]

[G] -- I was [G7] feeling kinda [Em7] seasick [G7]

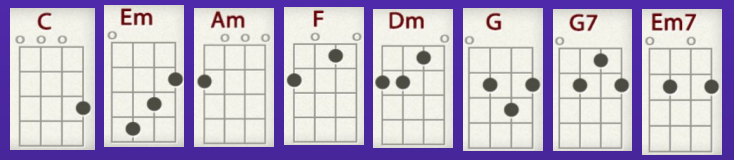
[C] -- But the [Em] crowd called out for [Am] more [G7]

[F] -- The [Am] room was humming [Dm] harder [F]

[G] -- As the [G7] ceiling flew a[Em]way [G7]

[C] -- When we [Em] called out for [Am] an-o-o-ther [C] drink,

[F] -- The [Am] waiter brought a [Dm] tray



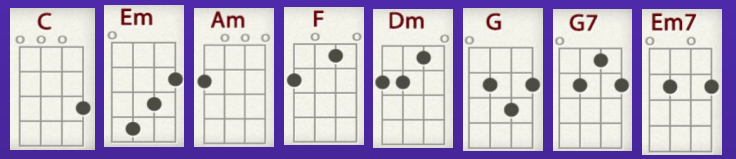
CHORUS

[G]/ And [G]/ so [G]/ it [C] wa-a-a-s [Em] -- that [Am] later [C]

[F] As the [Am] miller told his [Dm] tale [F]

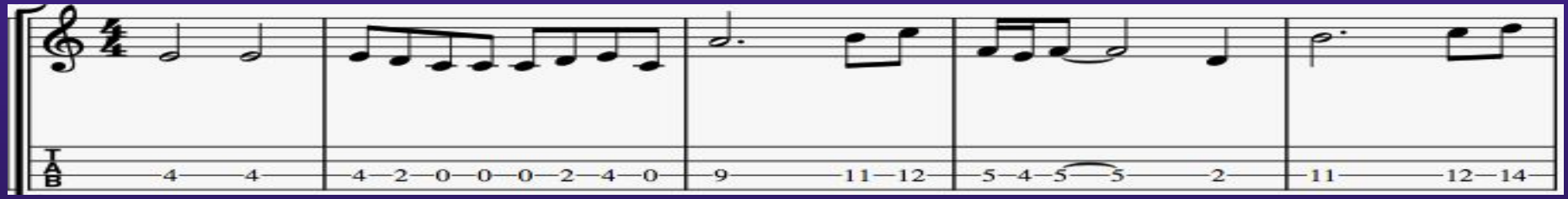
[G] That her [G7] face, at first just [Em7] ghostly, [G7]

Turned a [C] whiter -- [F] shade of [C] pale. [G7]

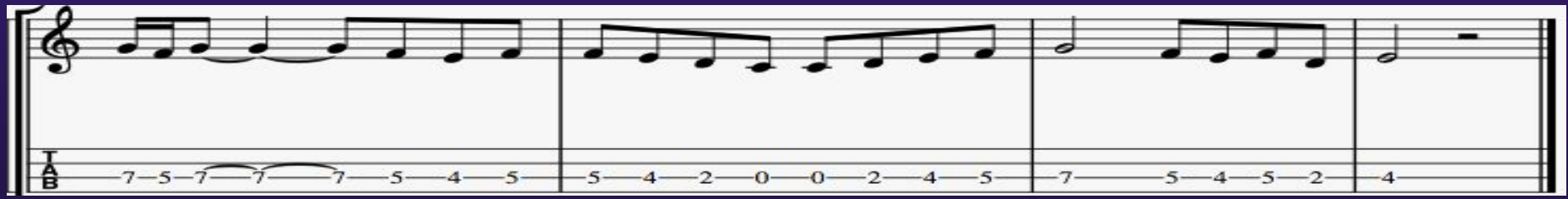


STRUM AND HUM AND PICK MAJESTICALLY!

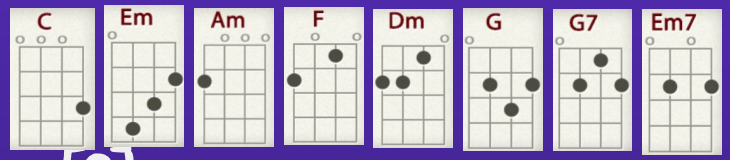
[C] / [Em] / [Am] / [C] / [F] / [Am] / [Dm] / [F] / [G] / [G7] /



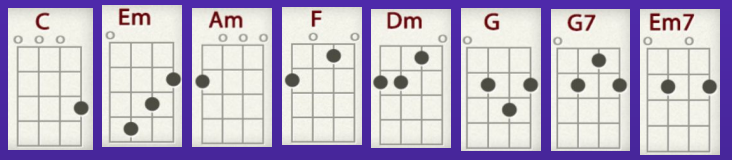
[Em7] / [G7] / [C] / [F] / [C] / [G7] / [C]



SECOND VERSE



[C] She [Em] said, "There is no [Am] reason [C]
[F] And the [Am] truth is plain to [Dm] see." [F]
[G] But I [G7] wandered through my [Em7] playing cards [G7]
[C] And [Em] would not let her [Am] be [G7]
[F] One of [Am] sixteen vestal [Dm] virgins [F]
[G] Who were [G7] leaving for the [Em] coast [G7]
[C] And al[Em]though my eyes were [Am] o-o-pen [C]
[F] They might [Am] just as well been [Dm] closed.



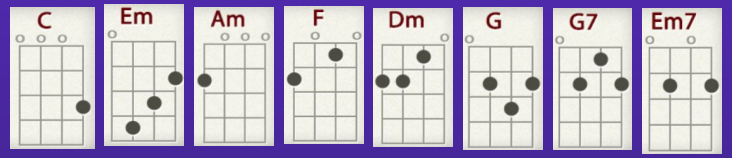
CHORUS

[G]/ And [G]/ so [G]/ it [C] wa-a-a-s [Em] -- that [Am] later [C]

[F] As the [Am] miller told his [Dm] tale [F]

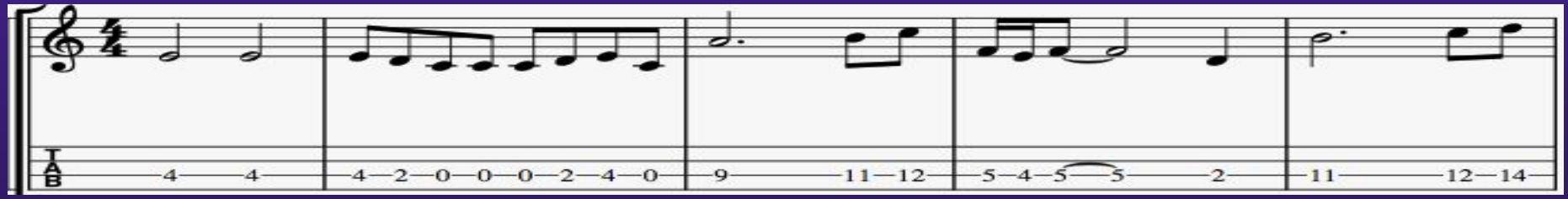
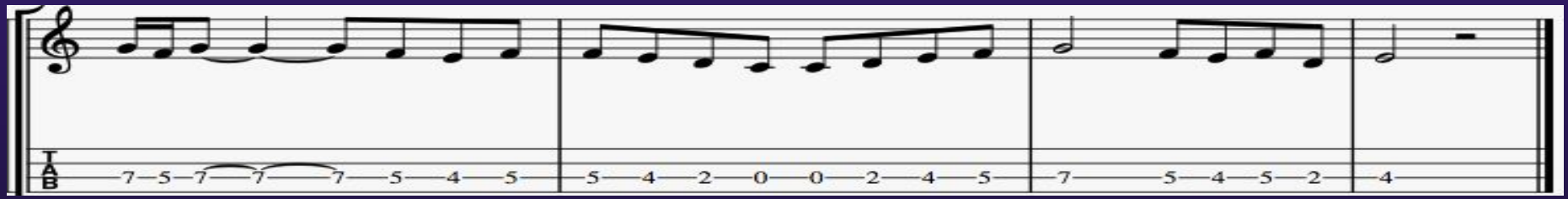
[G] That her [G7] face, at first just [Em7] ghostly, [G7]

Turned a [C] whiter -- [F] shade of [C] pale. [G7]



STRUM TO THE END.

[C] / [Em] / [Am] / [C] / [F] / [Am] / [Dm] / [F] / [G] / [G7] /



[Em7] / [G7] / [C] / [F] / [C] / [G7] / [C]