RECORDED VERSIONS GUITAR

AUTHENTIC TRANSCRIPTIONS WITH NOTES AND TABLATURE

Transcribed by
DAVE WHITEHILL
& RICK DeVINCK

NIRVANA

NEVERMIND

NIRVANA

NEVERMIND

23 Breed

16 Come As You Are

41 Drain You

10 In Bloom

27 Lithium

47 Lounge Act

55 On A Plain

32 Polly

4 Smells Like Teen Spirit

60 Something In The Way

51 Stay Away

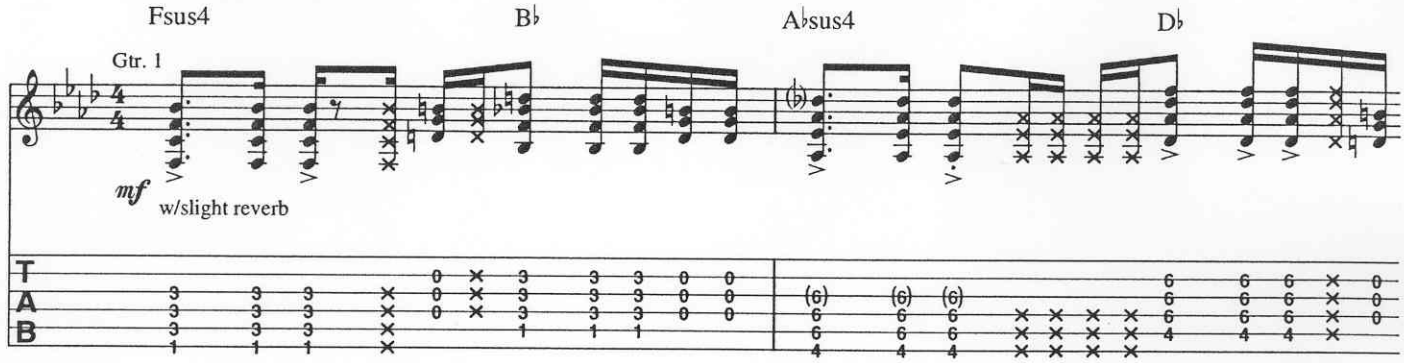
35 Territorial Pissings

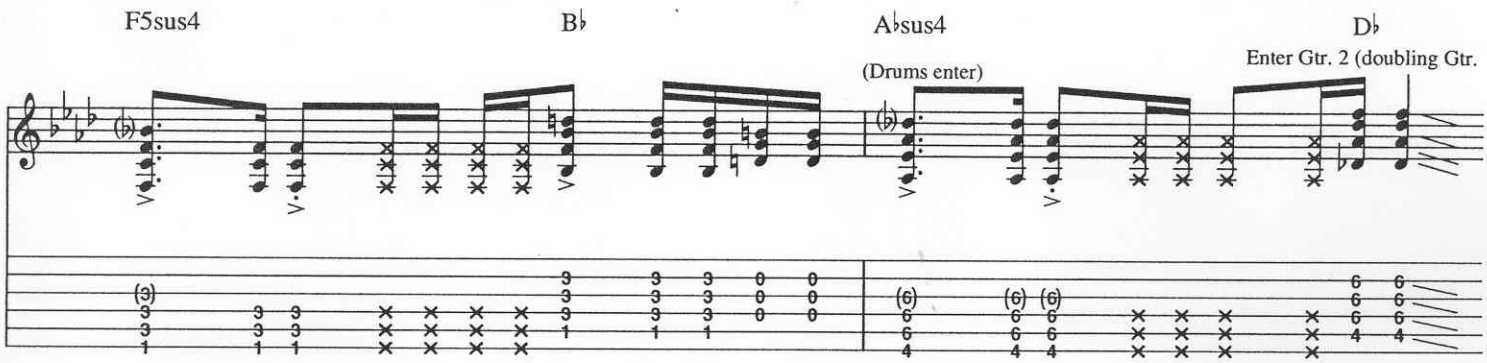
64 NOTATION LEGEND

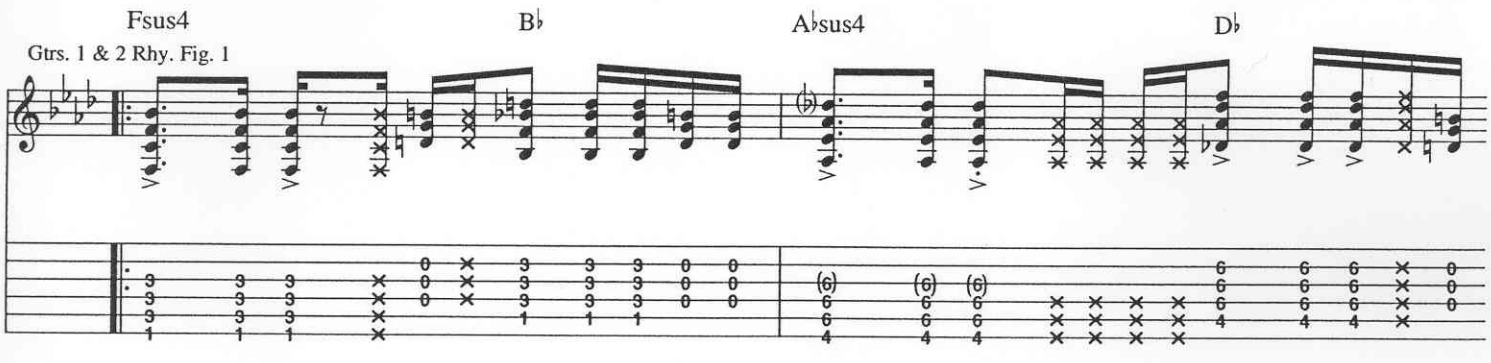
Smells Like Teen Spirit

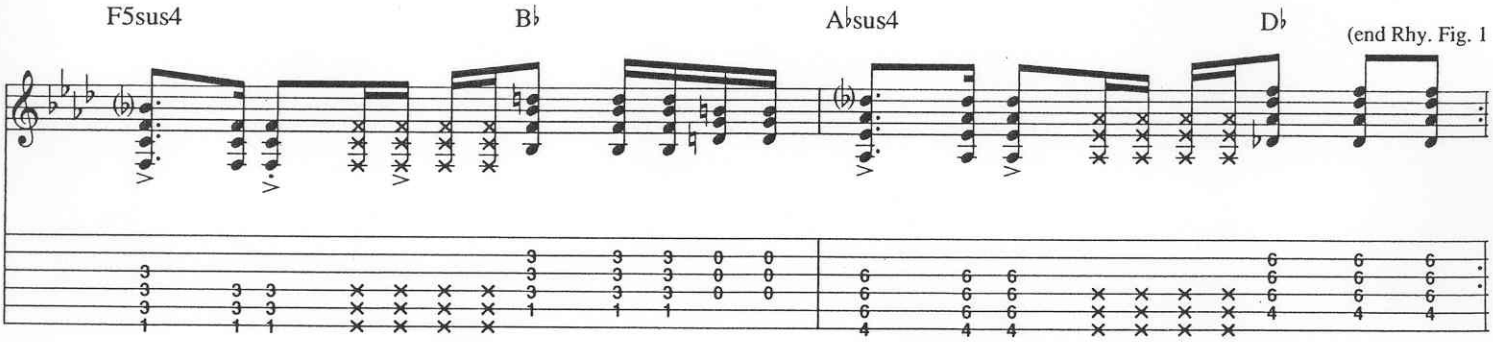
By Kurt Cobain, Chris Novoselic and David Grohl

Intro
Moderate Rock ♩ = 114









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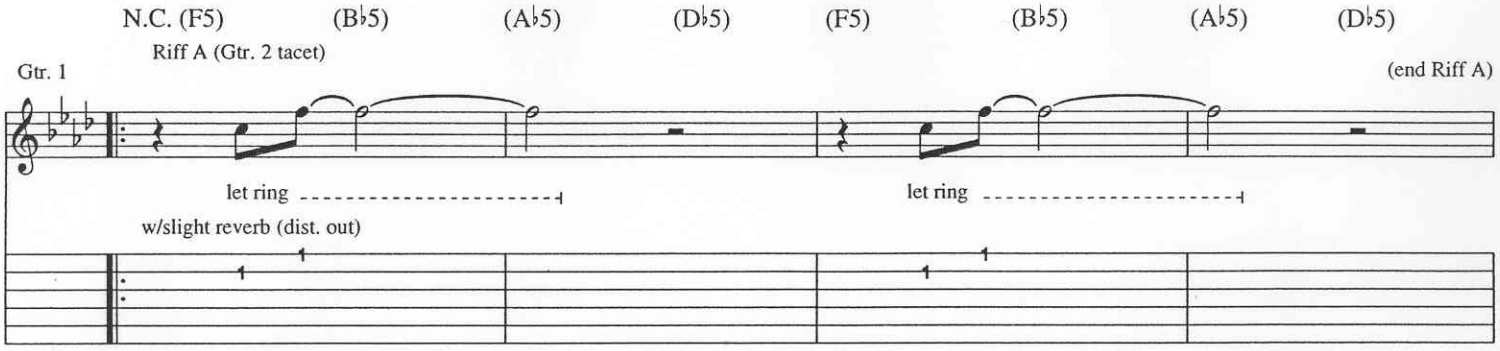


Verses N.C. (F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5)

On Verses 1 & 2 only - w/Riff A (w/repeats)
On D.S.S. only - w/Fill 1 (end of Solo)

mp

1. Load up on guns and bring your friends.
2. I'm worse at what I do best,
3. And I for - get just why I taste.

(F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5)

It's fun to lose and to pre - tend.
and for this gift I feel blessed.
Oh yeah, I guess it makes me smile.

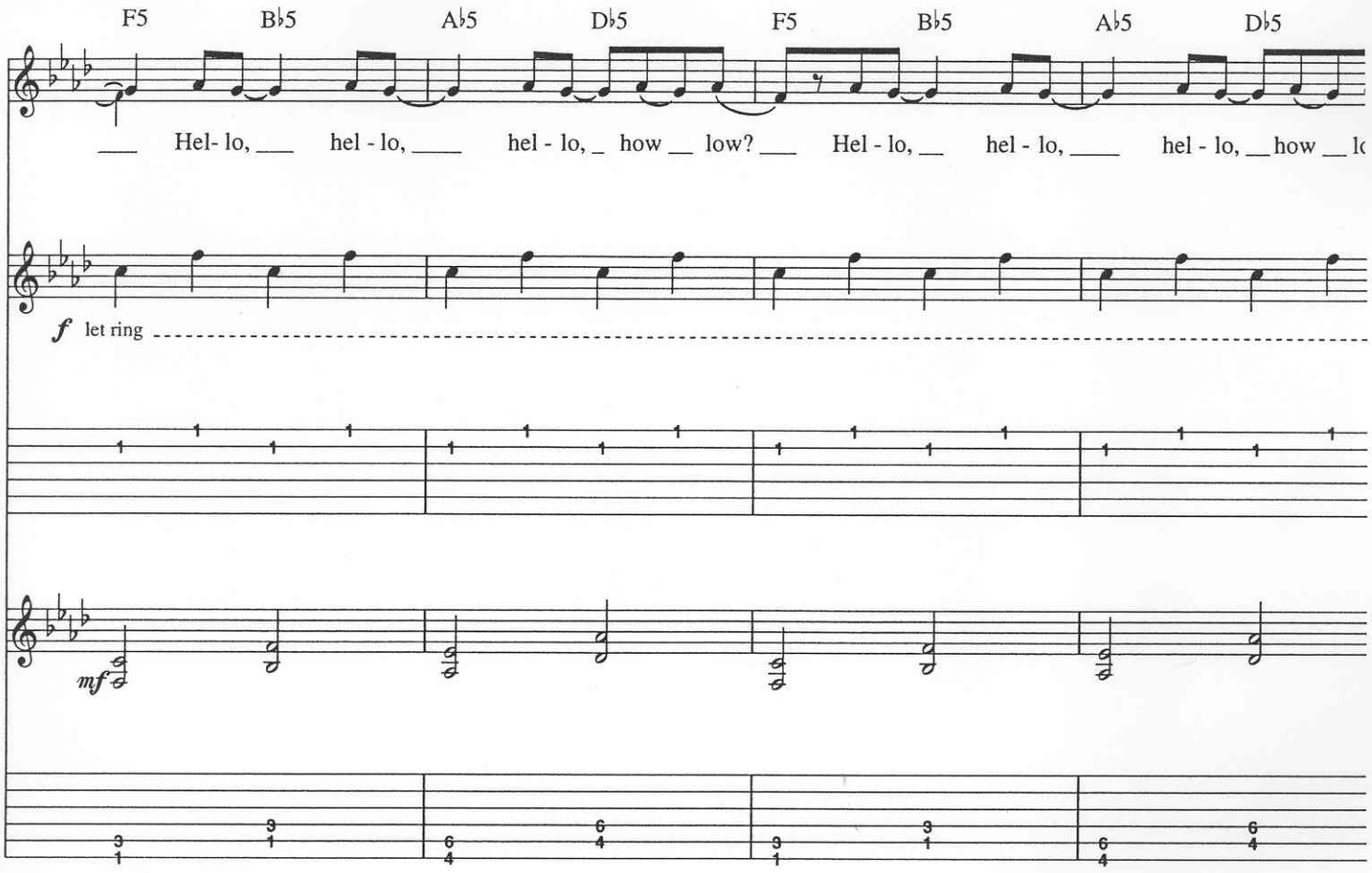
(F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5)

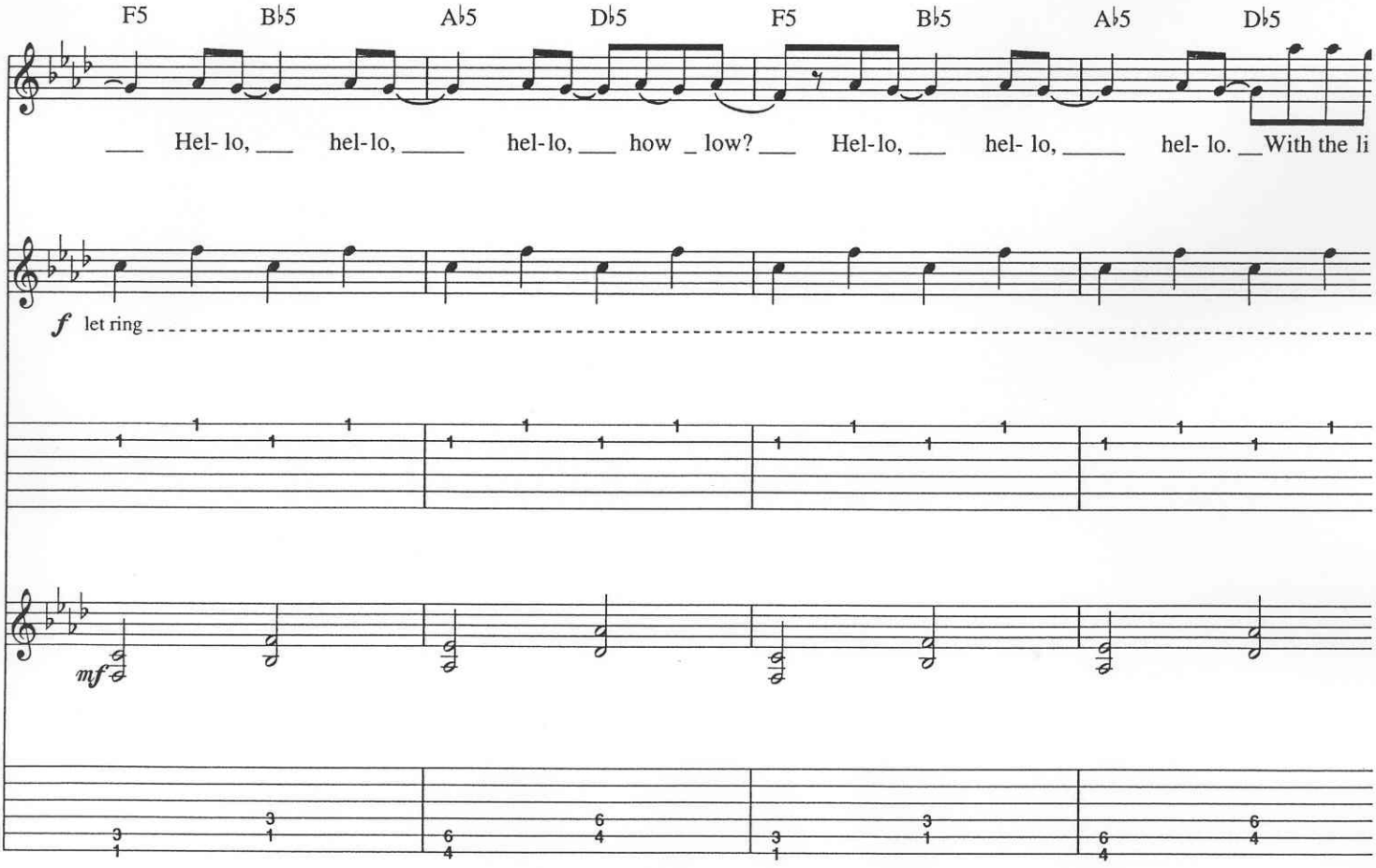
She's o - ver - bored and self - as - sured.
Our lit - tle group has al - ways been
I found it hard, it was hard to find.

(F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5)

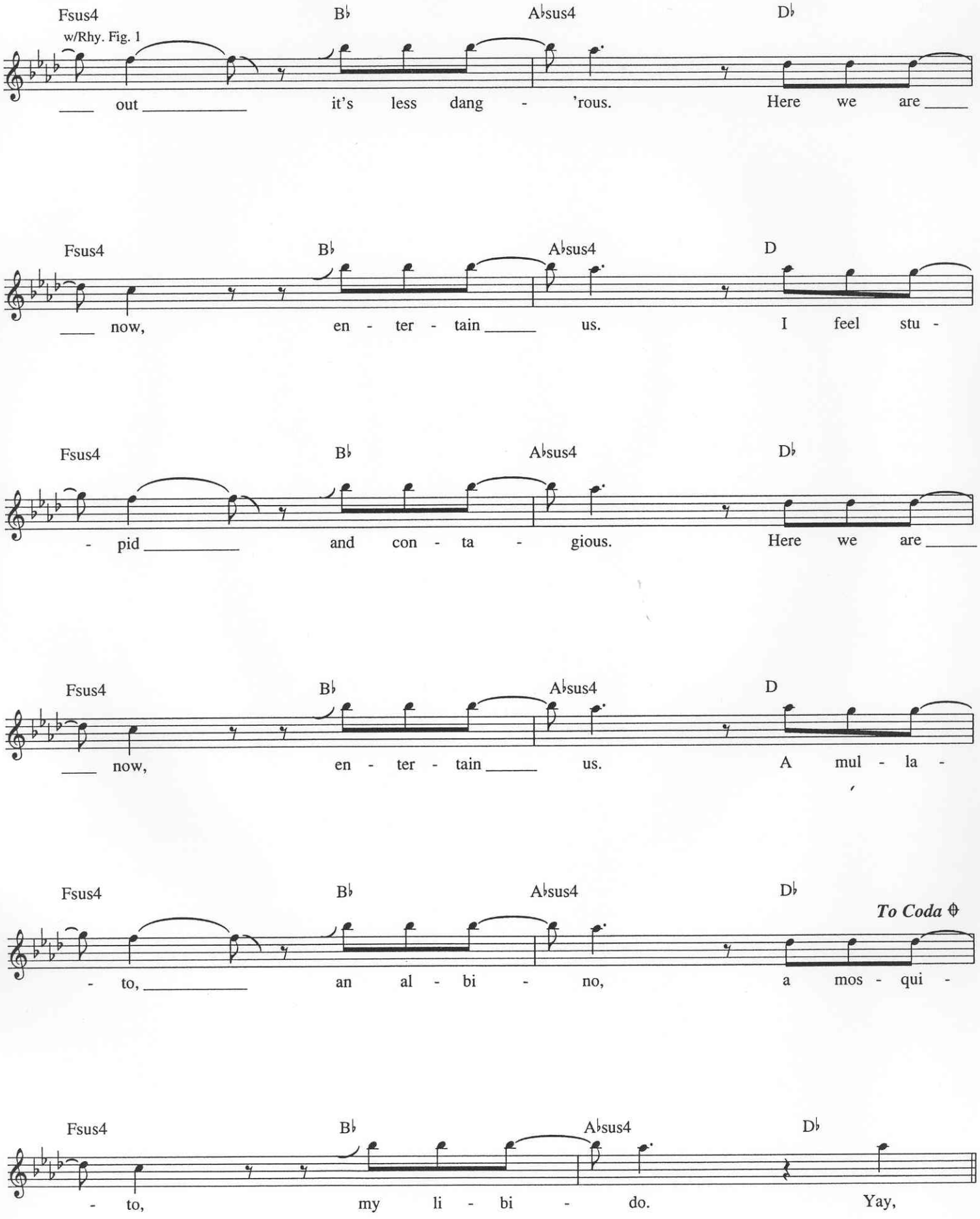
Oh no, I know a dirt - y word.
and al - ways will un - til the end.
Oh well, what - ev - ver, nev - er mind.

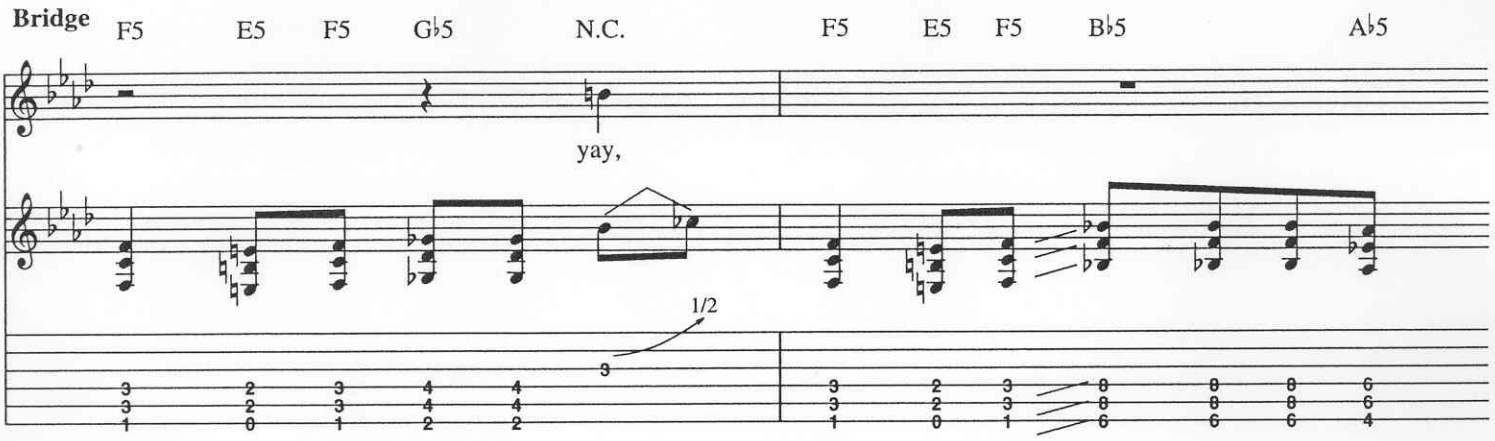
Pre-chorus

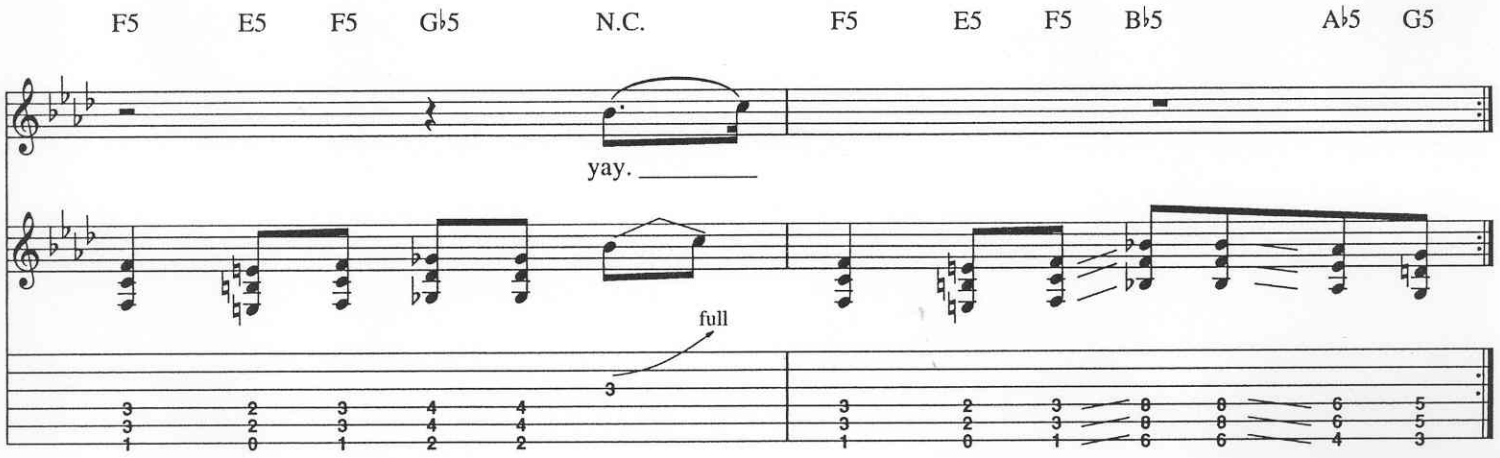

F5 B♭5 A♭5 D♭5 F5 B♭5 A♭5 D♭5
Hel- lo, hel - lo, hel - lo, how low? Hel - lo, hel - lo, hel - lo, how
f let ring
mf

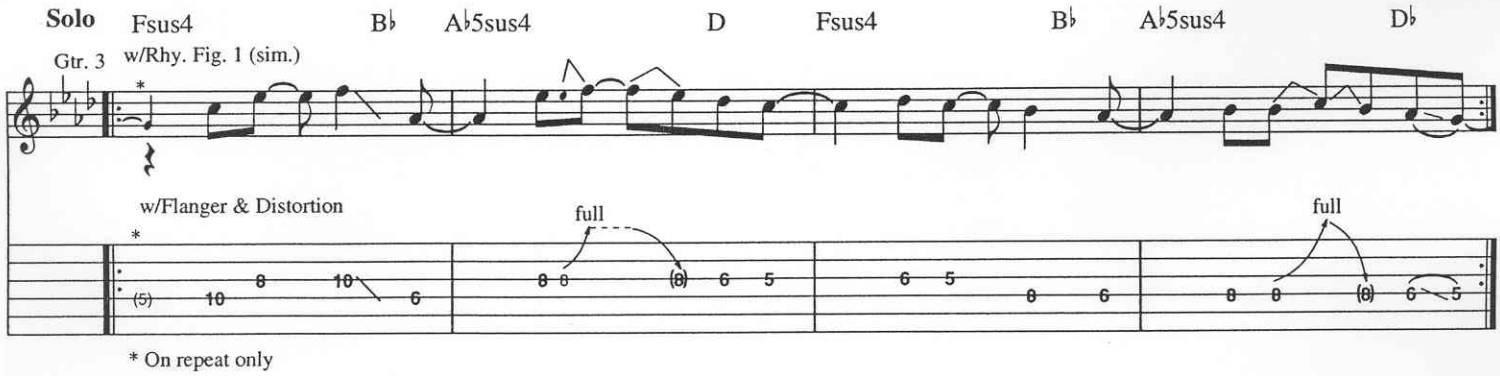

F5 B♭5 A♭5 D♭5 F5 B♭5 A♭5 D♭5
Hel- lo, hel-lo, hel-lo, how low? Hel-lo, hel- lo, hel- lo. With the li
f let ring
mf

Chorus

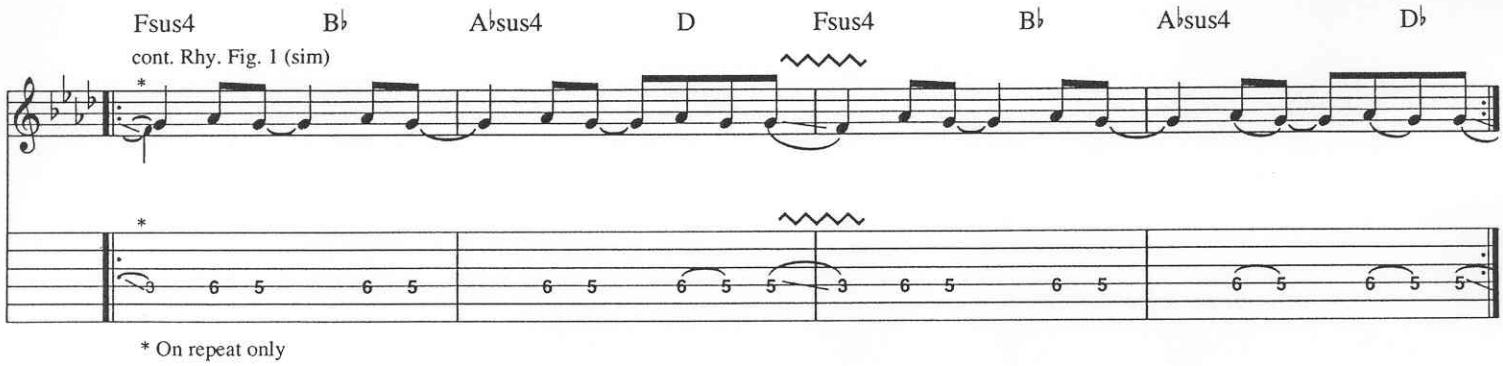

Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D♭
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
___ out _____ it's less dang - 'rous. Here we are ____
Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D
___ now, en - ter - tain ____ us. I feel stu -
Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D♭
- pid _____ and con - ta - gious. Here we are ____
Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D
___ now, en - ter - tain ____ us. A mul - la -
Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D♭
To Coda
- to, _____ an al - bi - no, a mos - qui -
Fsus4
B♭
A♭sus4
D♭
- to, my li - bi - do. Yay,







* On repeat only



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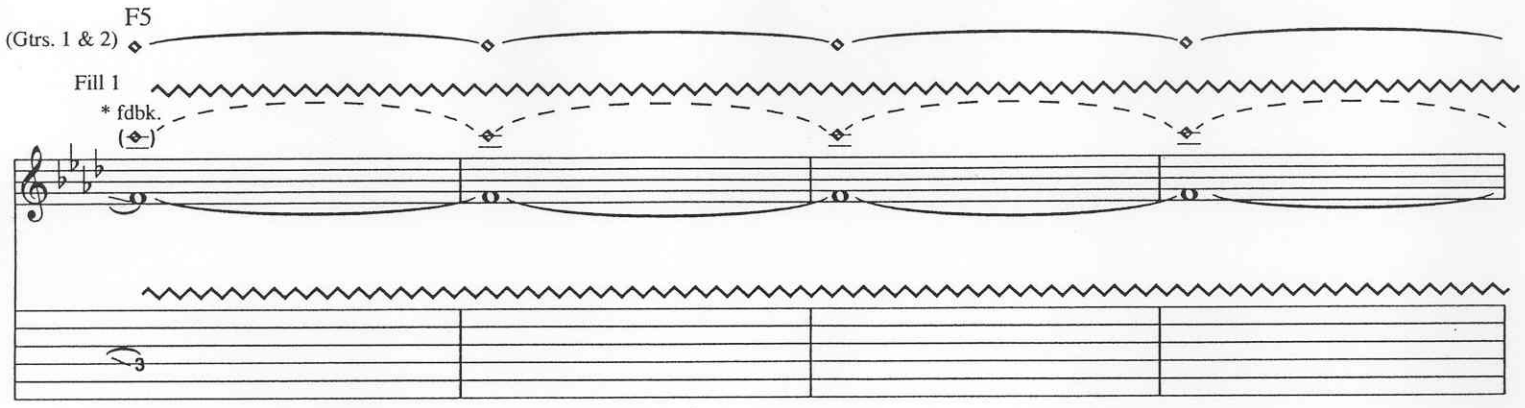
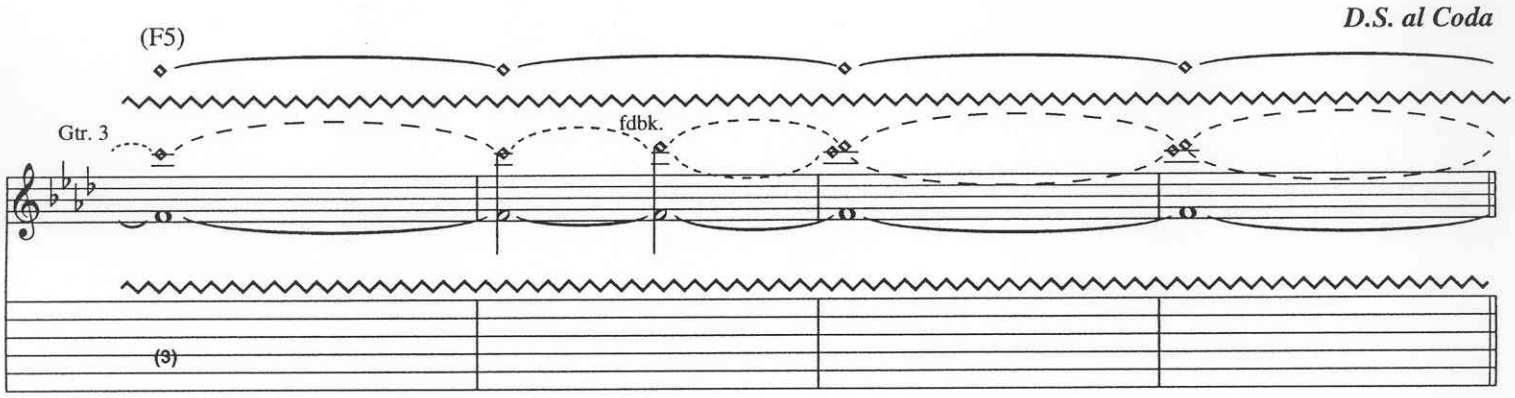
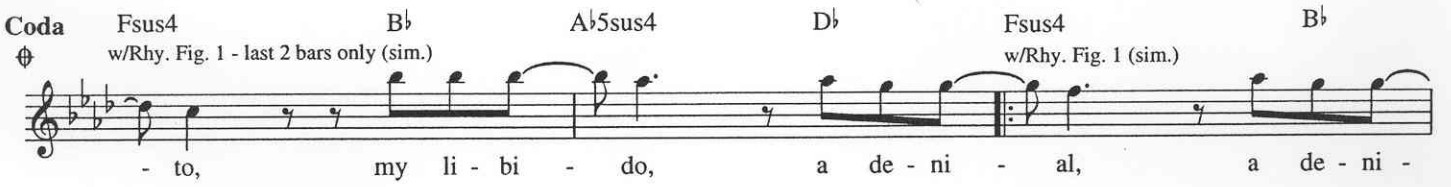
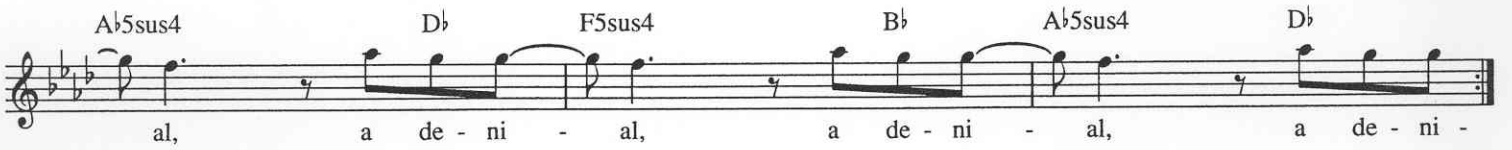
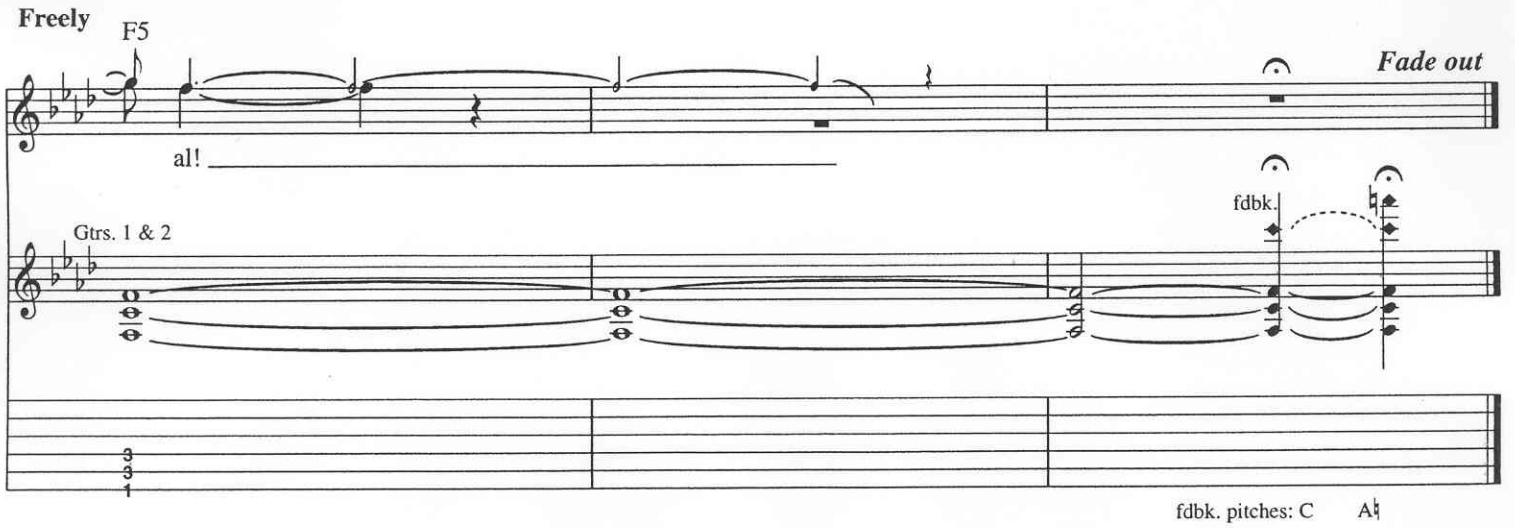


* Fdbk. barely audible for 4 bars
fdbk. pitch: C









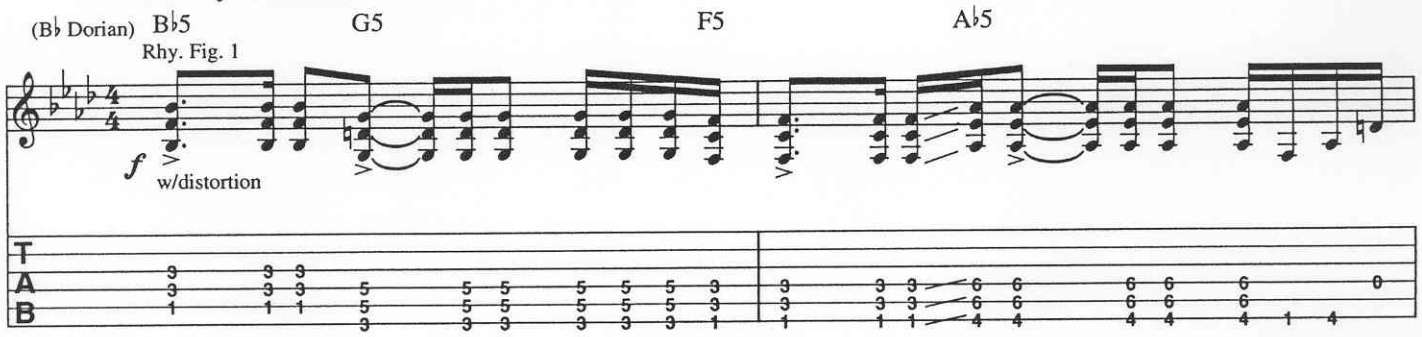
fdbk. pitches: C A♮

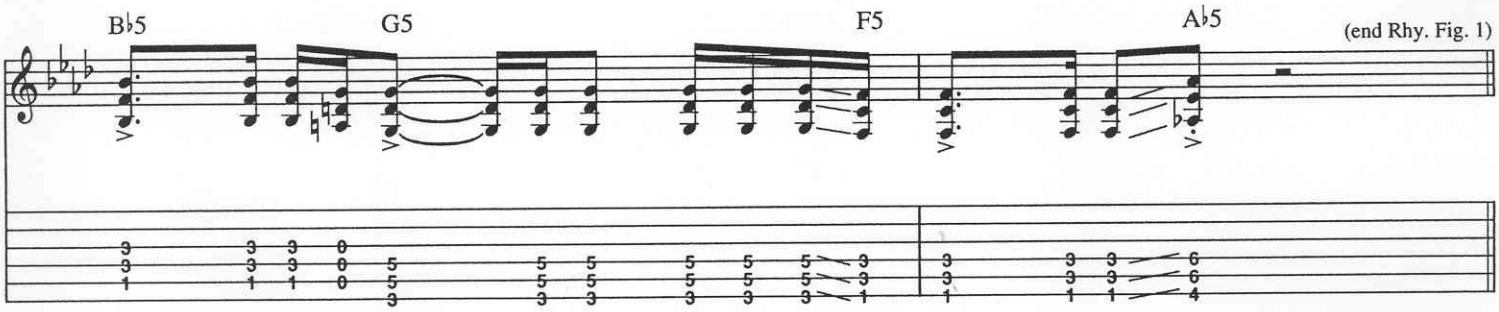
In Bloom

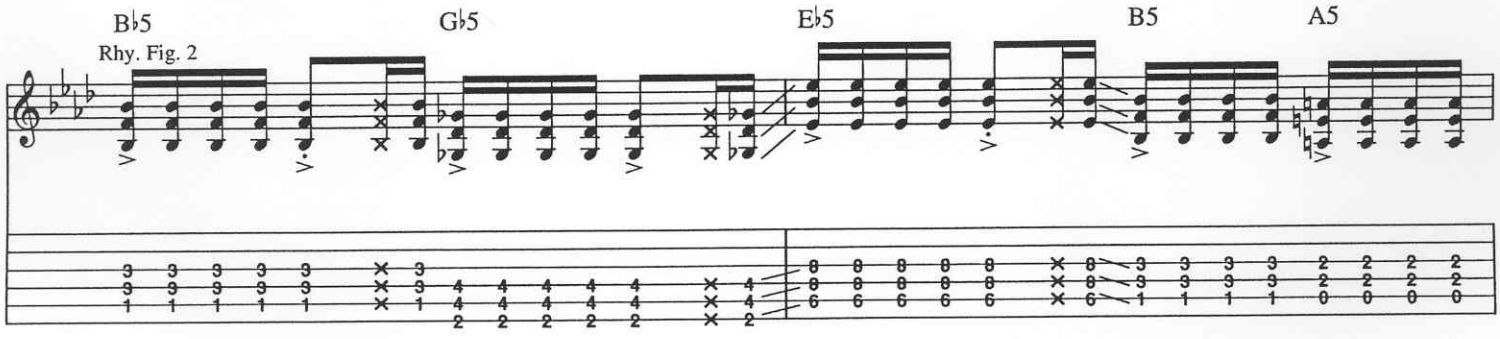
By Kurt Cobain

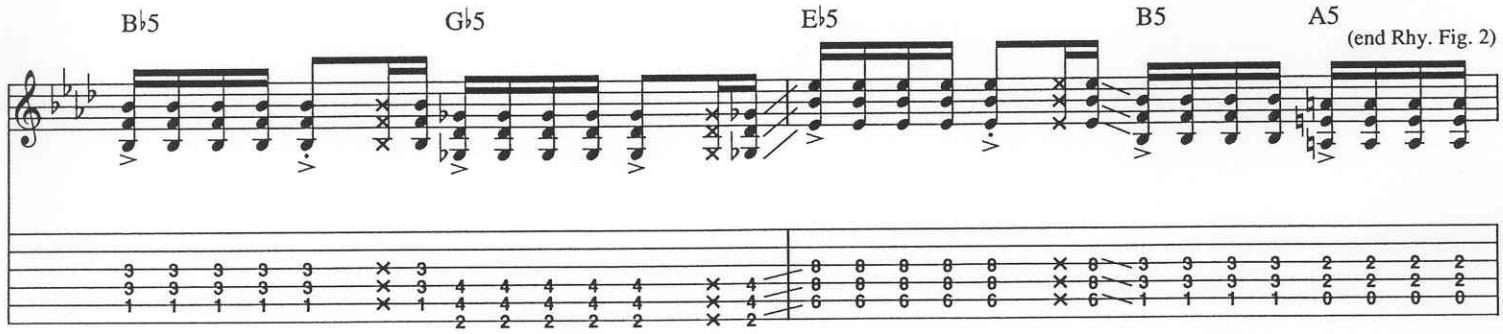
Intro

Moderately Slow Rock ♩ = 78









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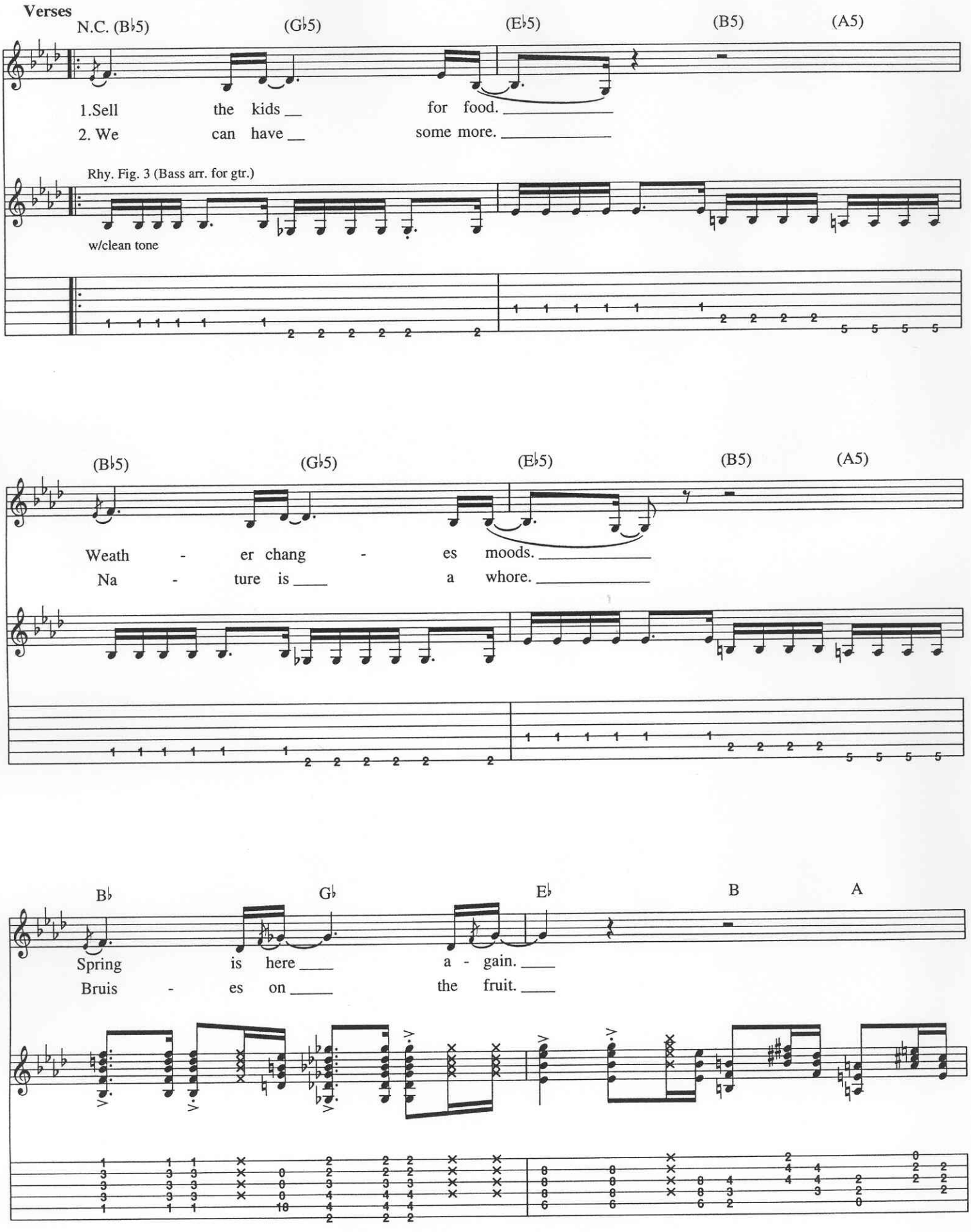
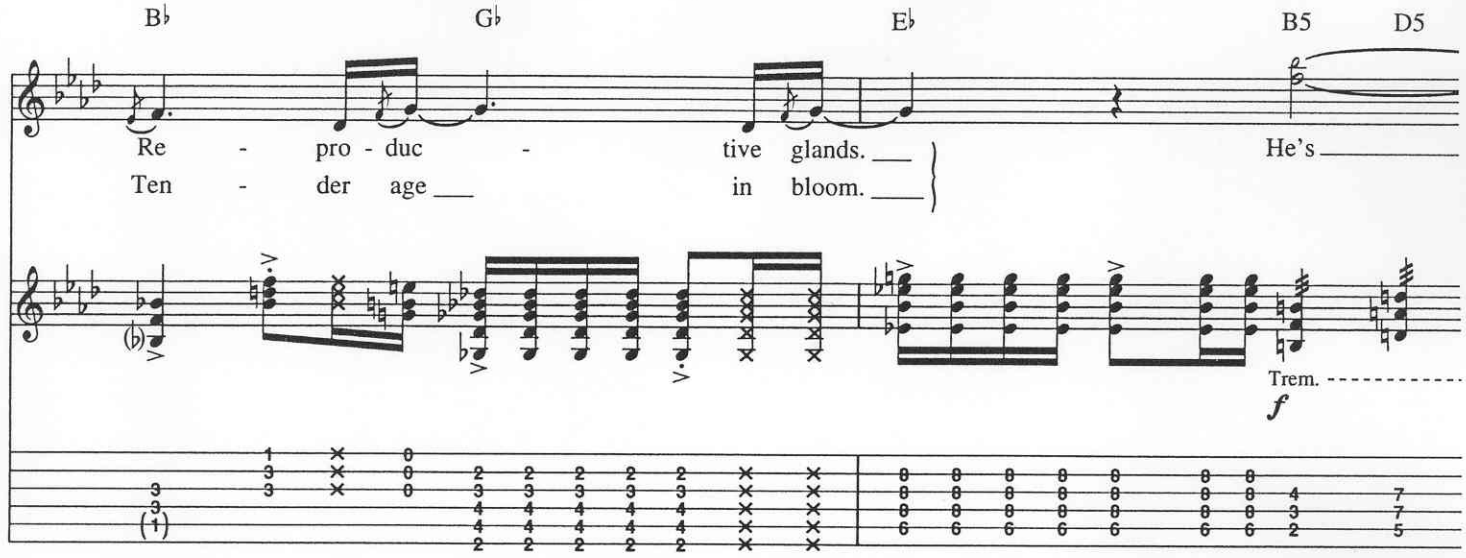
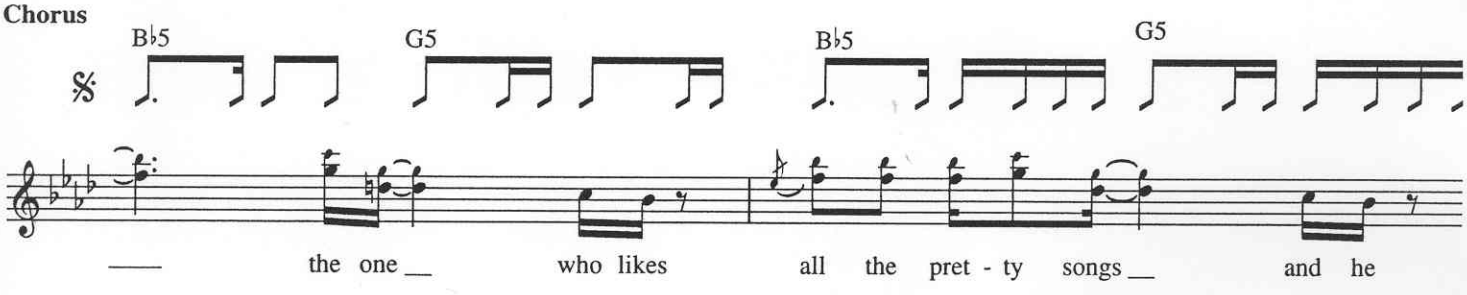
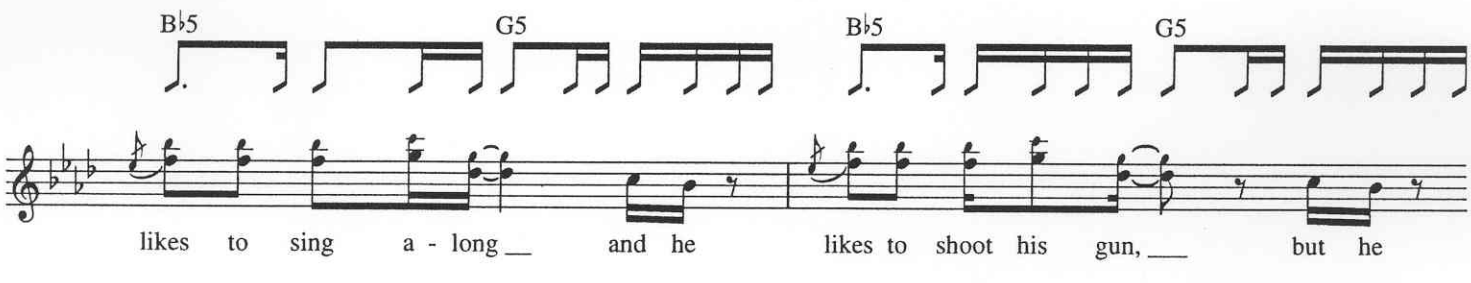
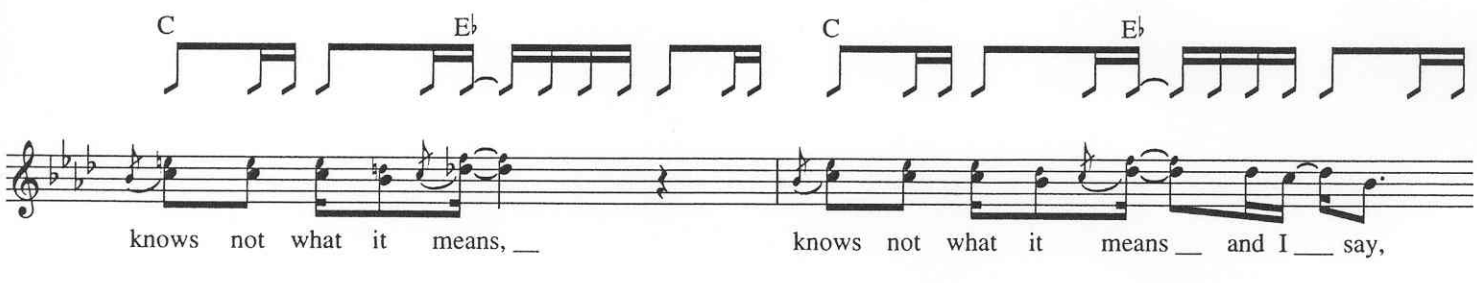

Verses
N.C. (B♭5)
(G♭5)
(E♭5)
(B5)
(A5)
1.Sell the kids __ for food. _____
2. We can have __ some more. _____
Rhy. Fig. 3 (Bass arr. for gtr.)
w/clean tone
(B♭5)
(G♭5)
(E♭5)
(B5)
(A5)
Weath - er chang - es moods. _____
Na - ture is ____ a whore. _____
B♭
G♭
E♭
B
A
Spring is here ____ a - gain. ____
Bruis - es on _____ the fruit. ____

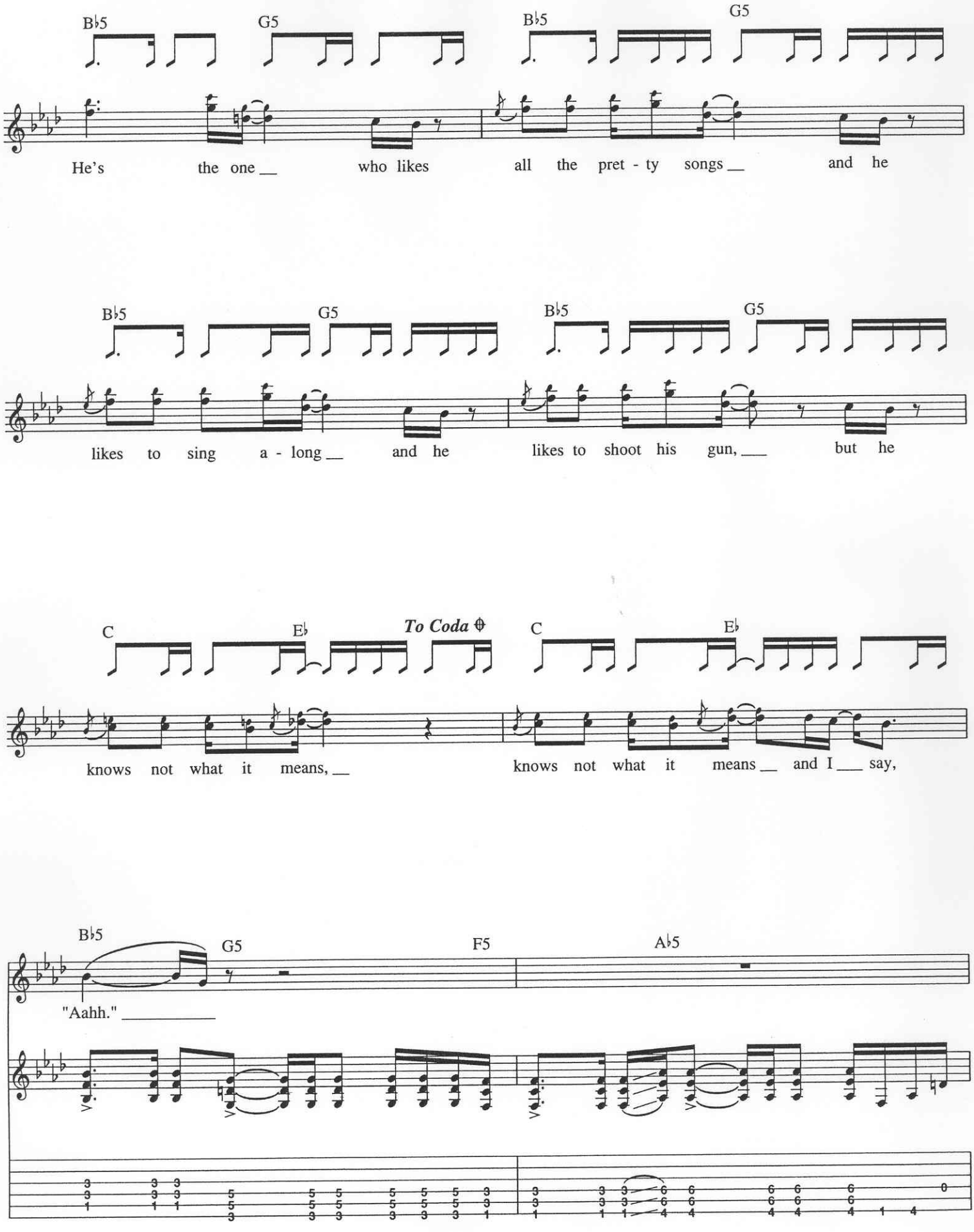

B♭
G♭
E♭
B5
D5
Re - pro - duc - tive glands. ___
Ten - der age ___ in bloom. ___
He's ___
Trem.
f

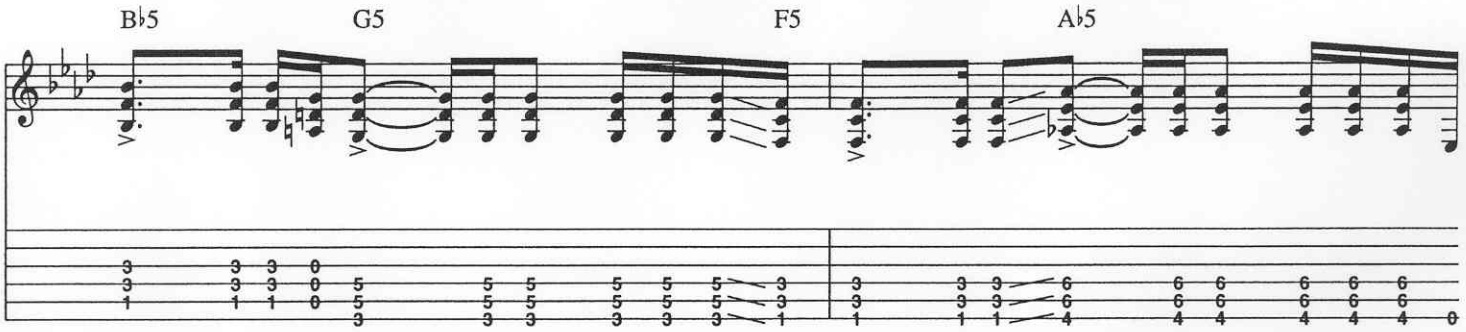
Chorus

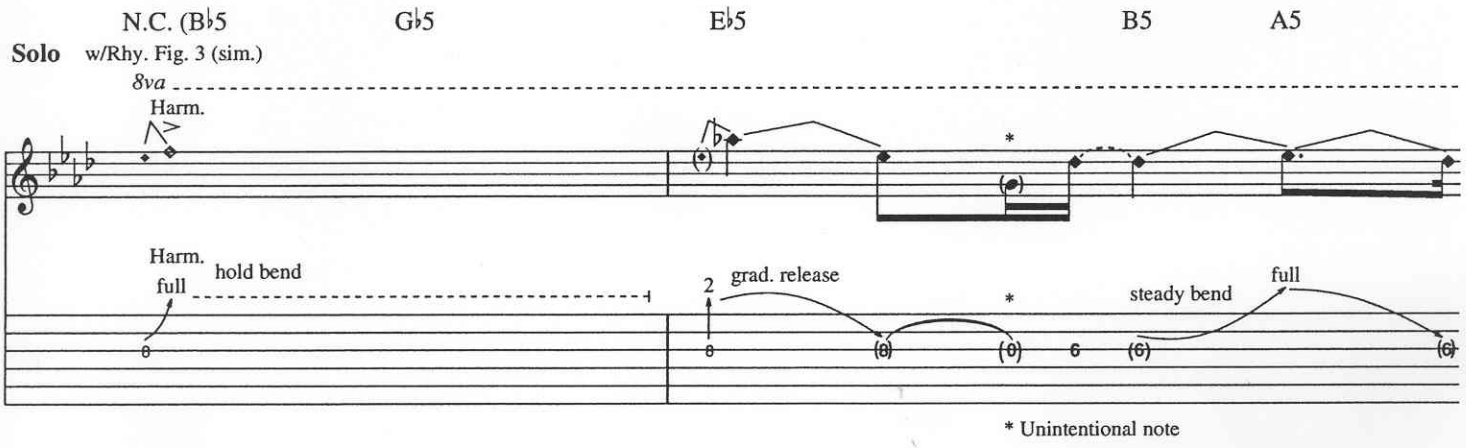

B♭5
G5
B♭5
G5
𝄋
___ the one __ who likes all the pret - ty songs __ and he


B♭5
G5
B♭5
G5
likes to sing a - long __ and he likes to shoot his gun, ___ but he

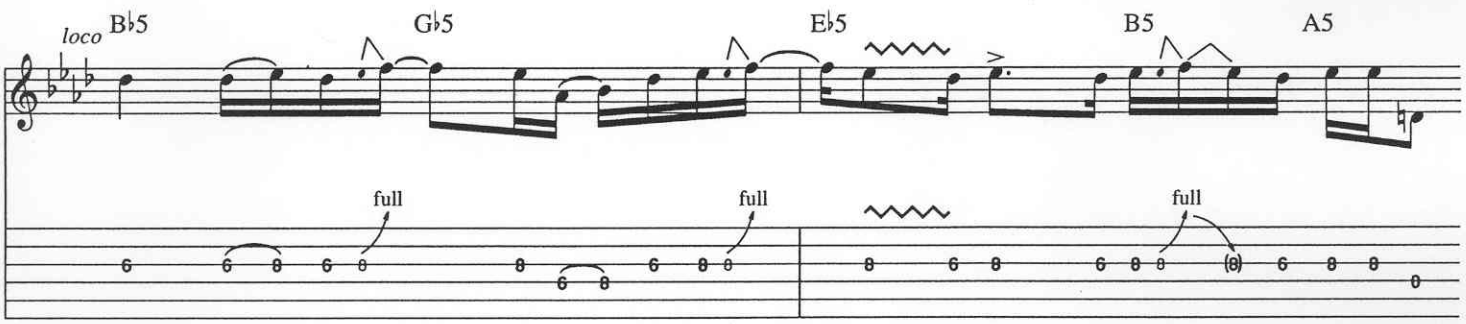

C
E♭
C
E♭
knows not what it means, __ knows not what it means __ and I ___ say,

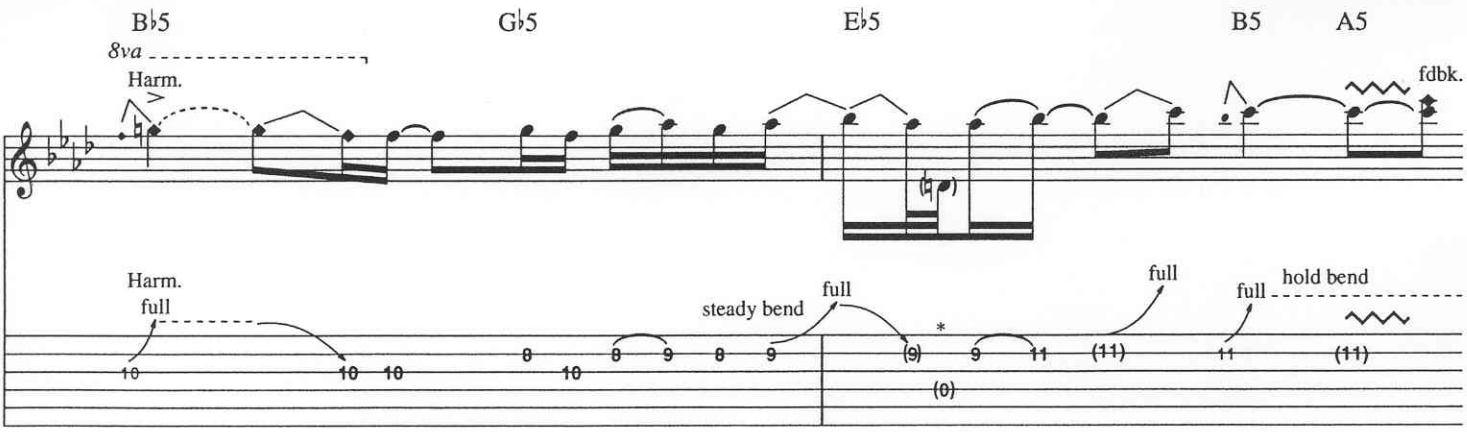

B♭5
G5
B♭5
G5
He's the one __ who likes all the pret - ty songs __ and he
B♭5
G5
B♭5
G5
likes to sing a - long __ and he likes to shoot his gun, ___ but he
C
E♭
To Coda
C
E♭
knows not what it means, __ knows not what it means __ and I ___ say,
B♭5
G5
F5
A♭5
"Aahh." _____



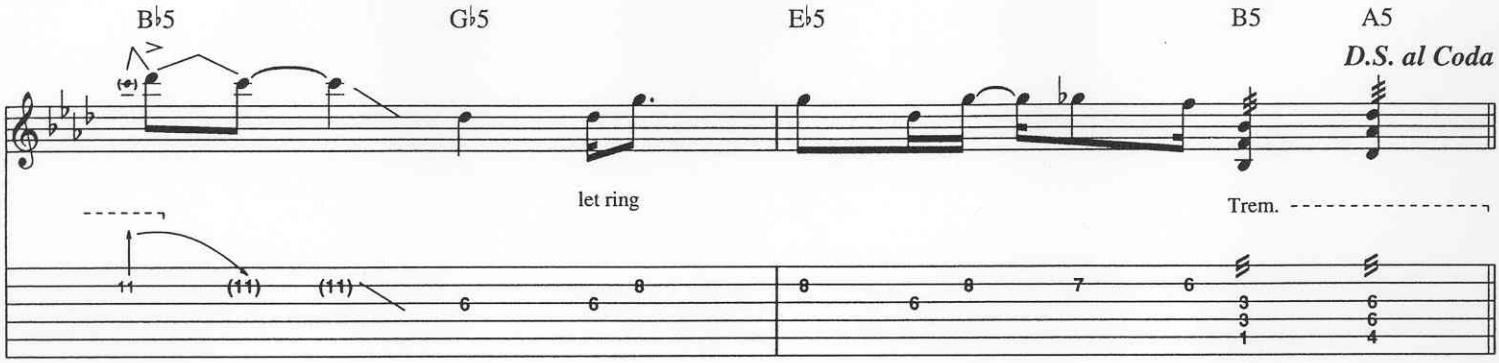


* Unintentional note

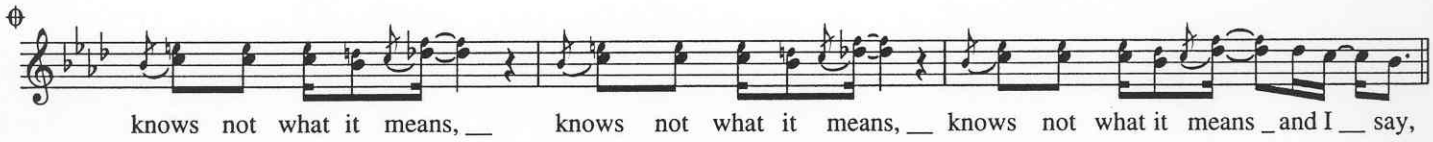




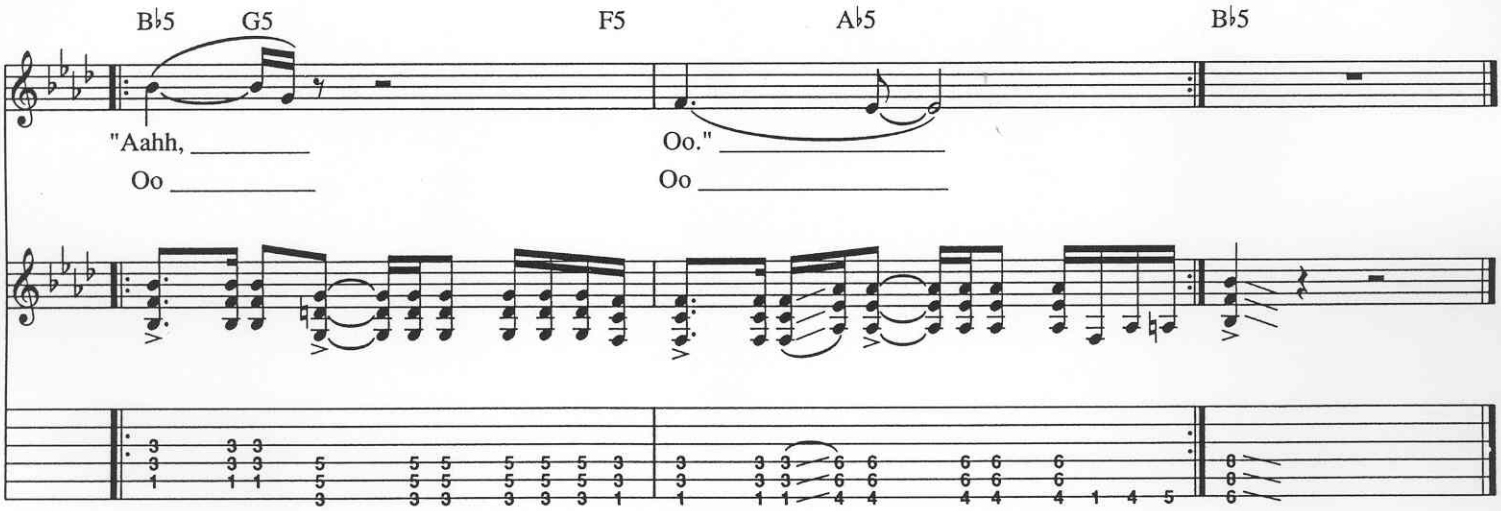
* Unintentional tone



Coda



knows not what it means, __ knows not what it means, __ knows not what it means _ and I __ say,



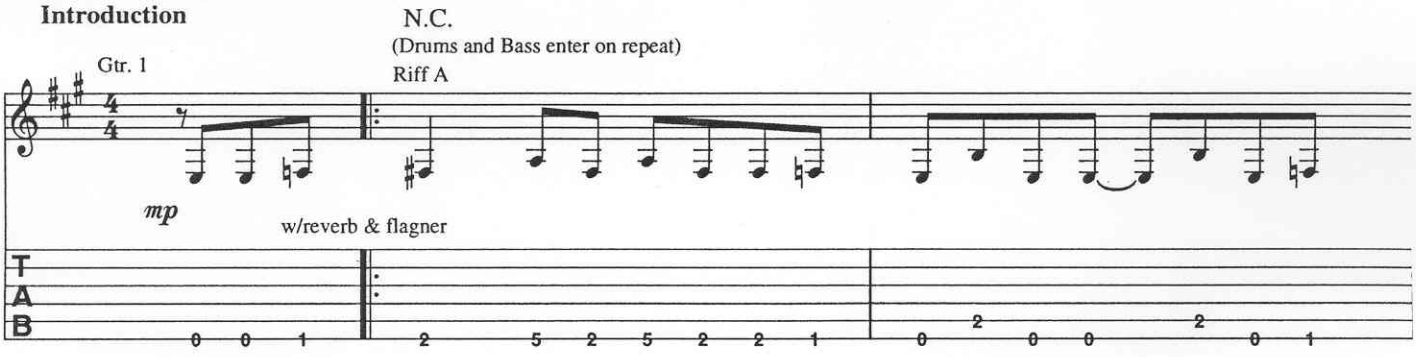
Come As You Are

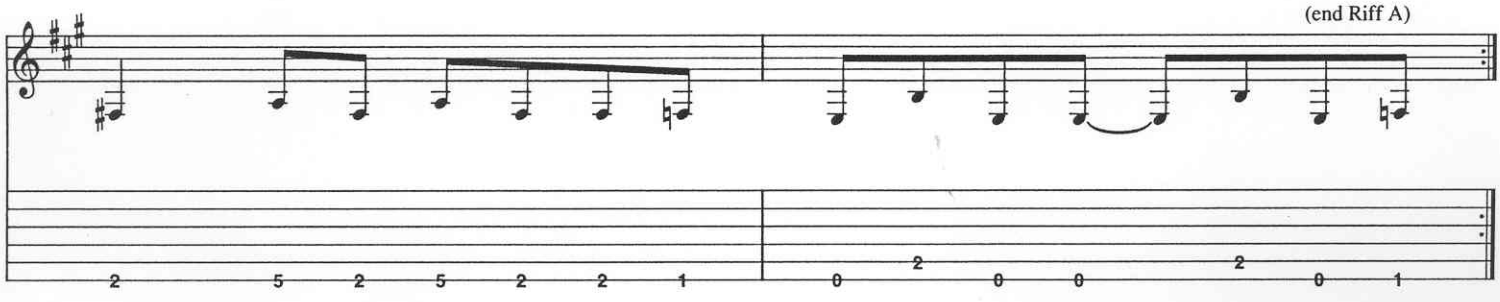
By Kurt Cobain

Tune Down One Whole Step
(1) = D (2) = A
(3) = F (4) = C
(5) = G (6) = D

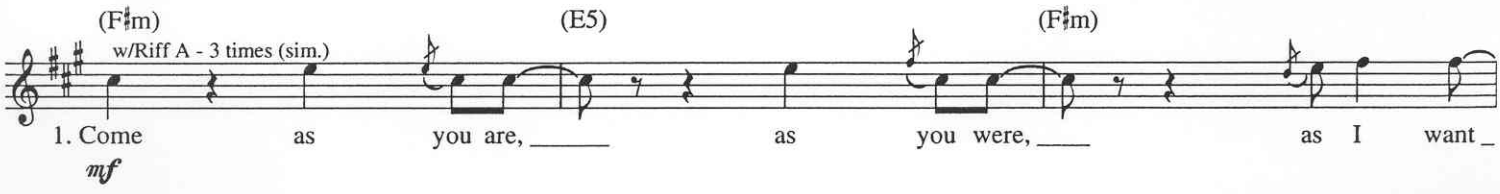
Moderate Rock ♩ = 120

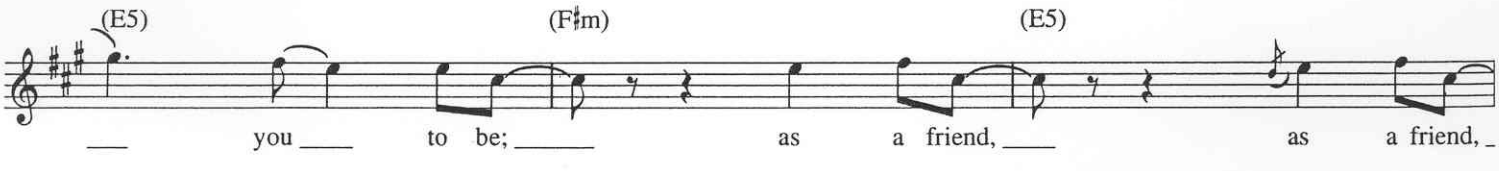
Introduction



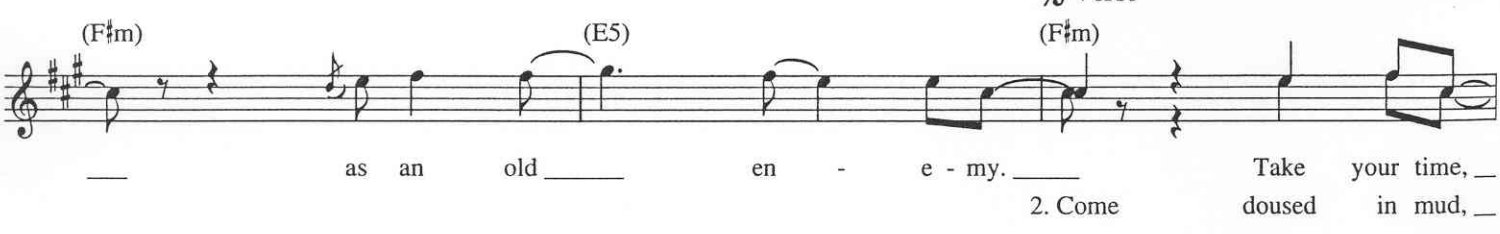


Verse





𝄋 **Verse**



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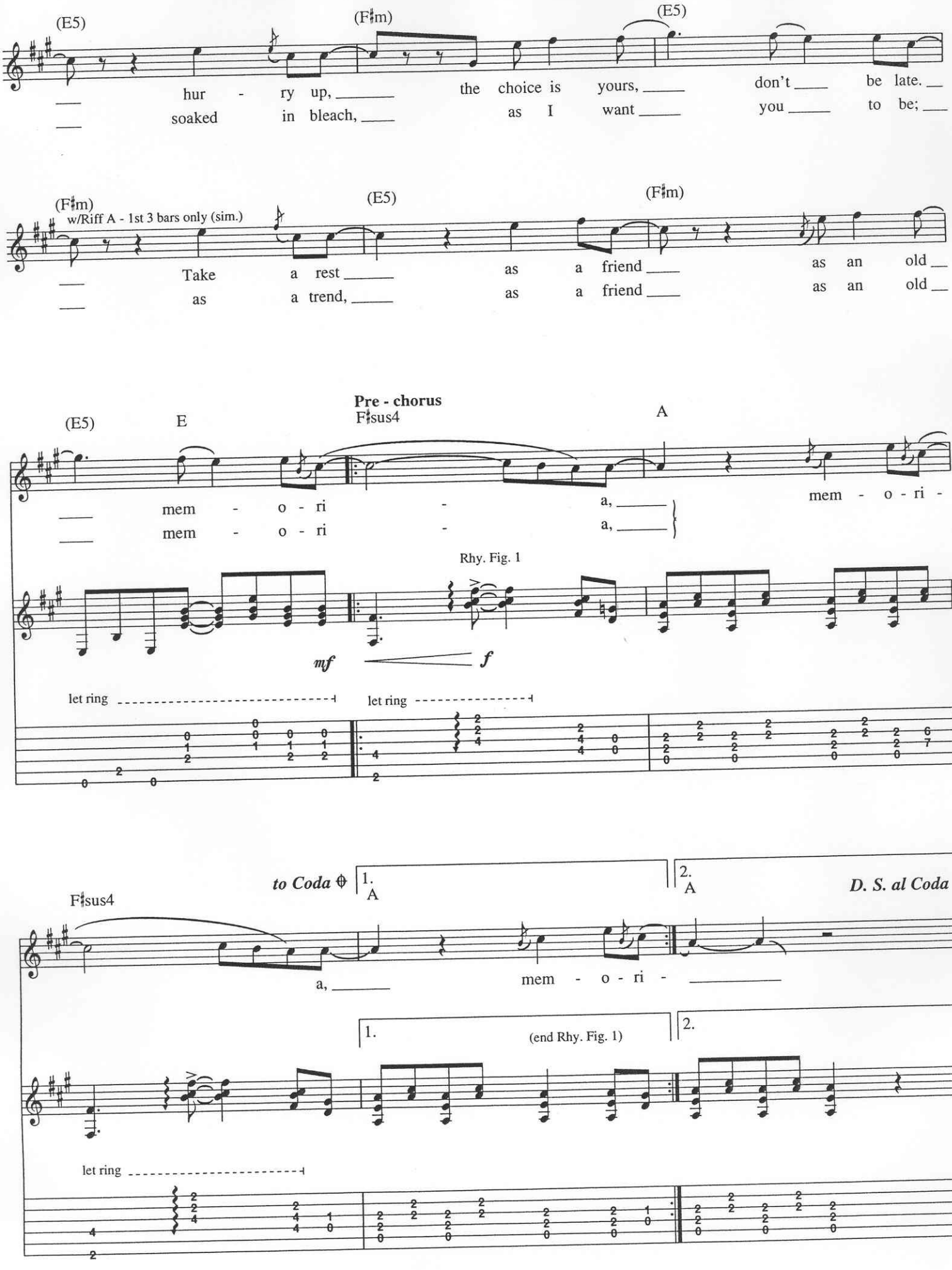
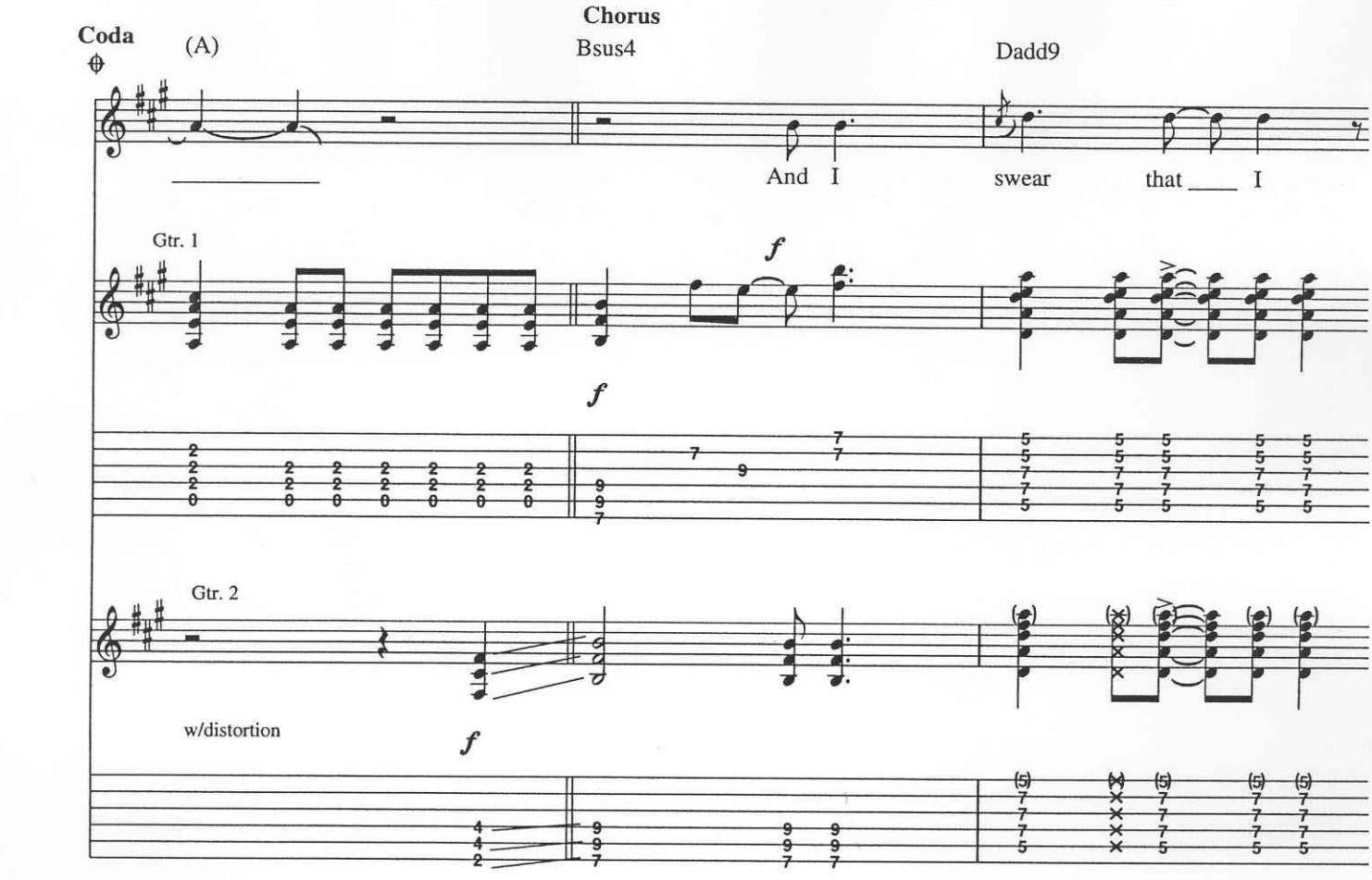
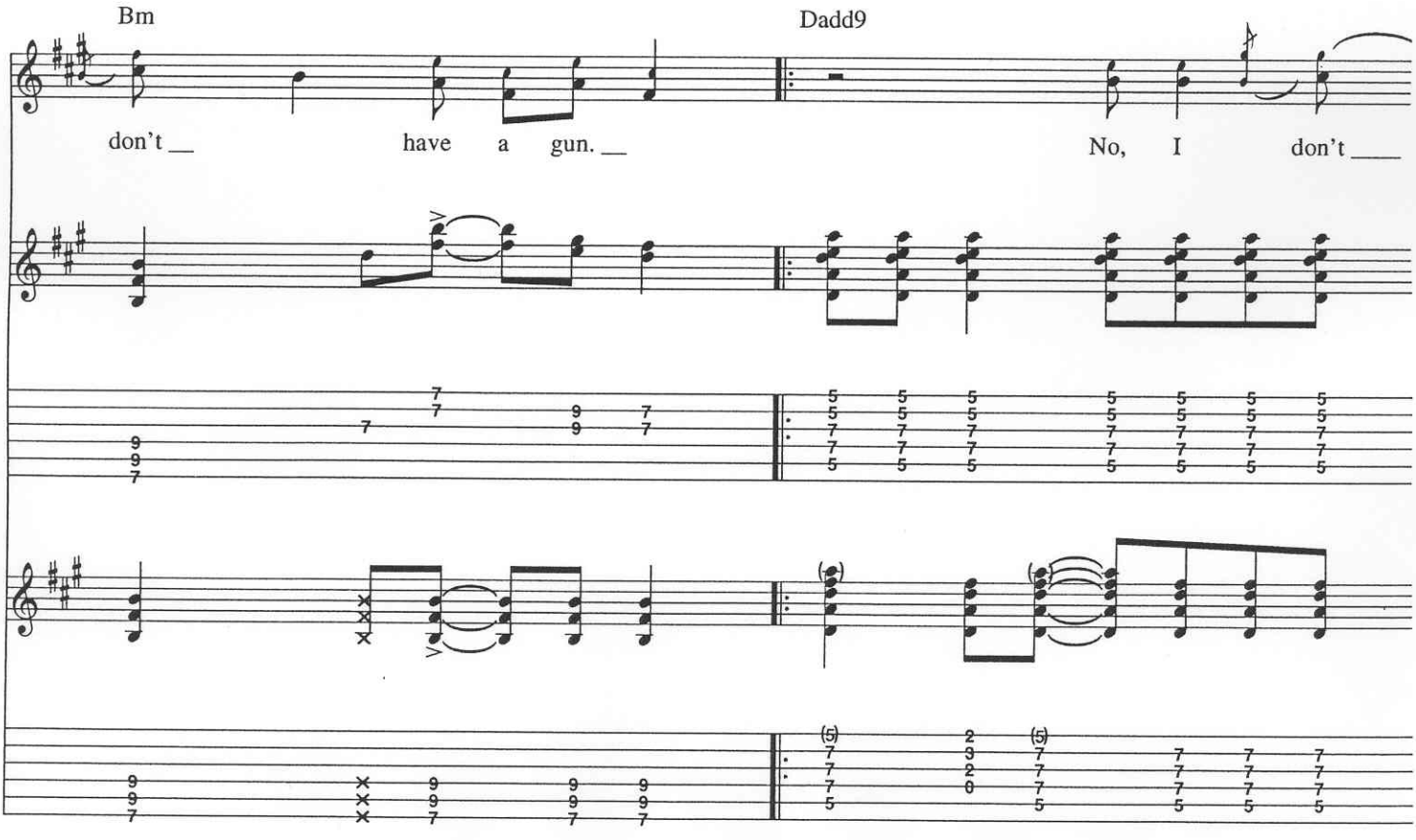
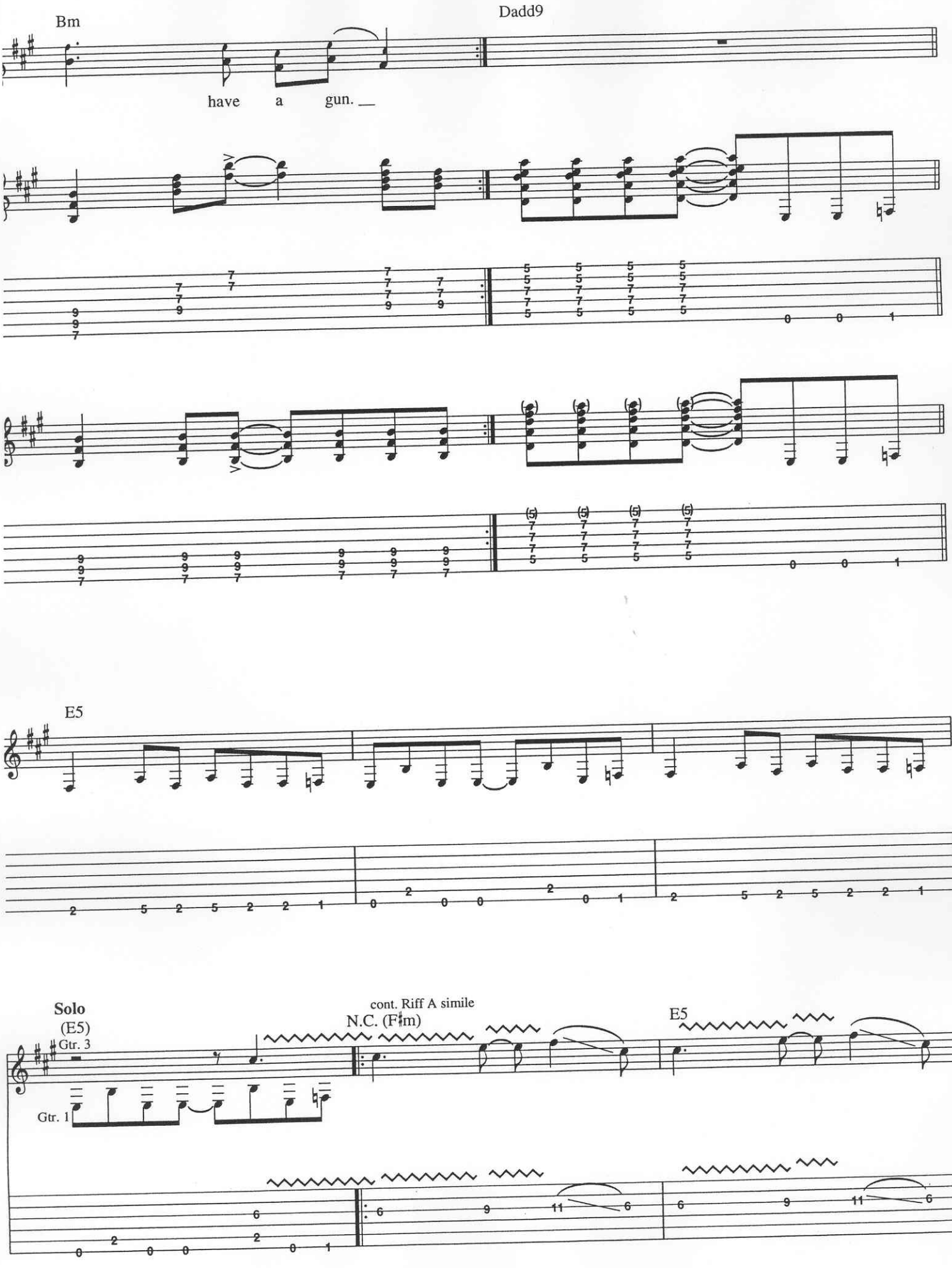
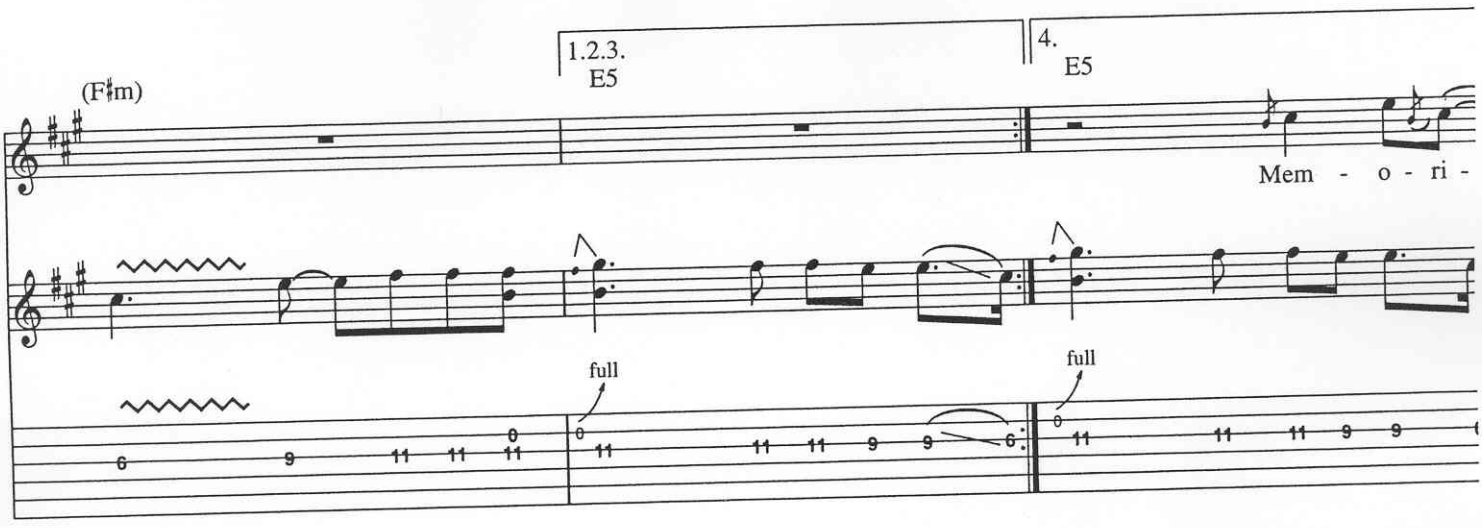
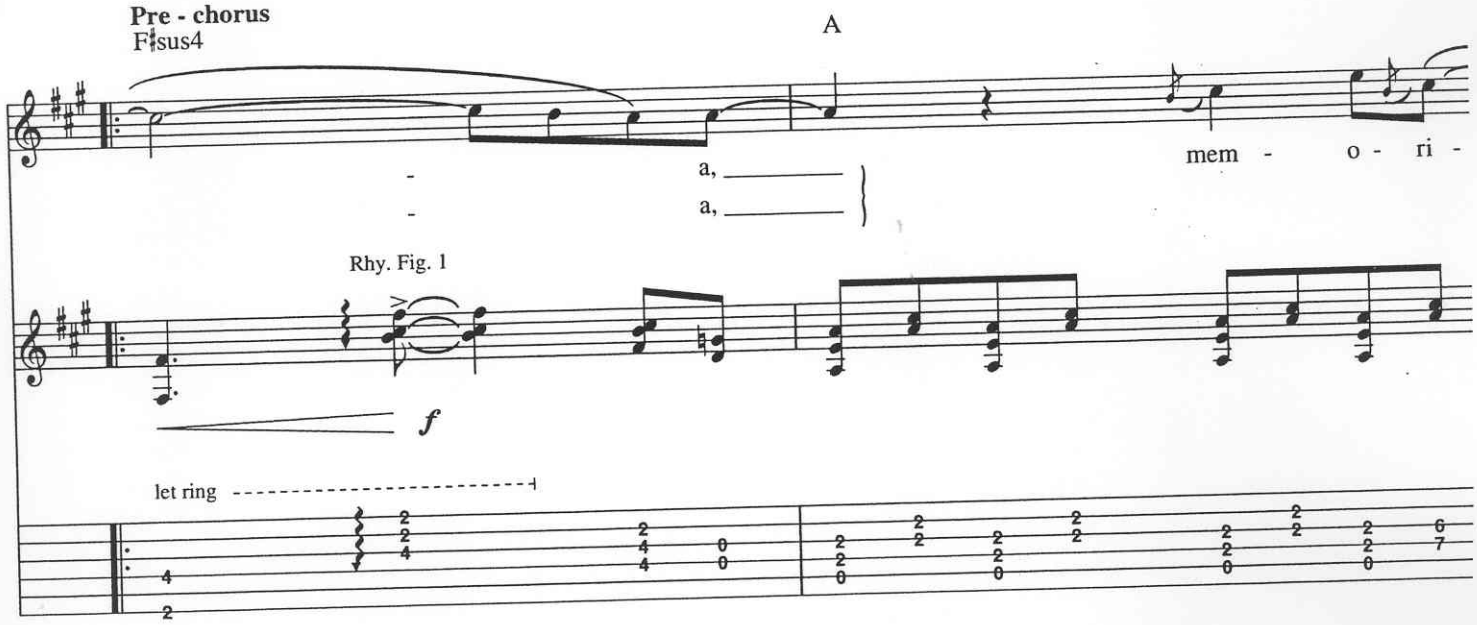

(E5)
(F♯m)
(E5)
hur - ry up, the choice is yours, don't be late.
soaked in bleach, as I want you to be;
(F♯m)
w/Riff A - 1st 3 bars only (sim.)
(E5)
(F♯m)
Take a rest as a friend as an old
as a trend, as a friend as an old
Pre - chorus
(E5)
E
F♯sus4
A
mem - o - ri - a,
mem - o - ri - a,
mem - o - ri -
Rhy. Fig. 1
mf
f
let ring
let ring
to Coda
1.
A
2.
A
D. S. al Coda
F♯sus4
a,
mem - o - ri -
1.
(end Rhy. Fig. 1)
2.
let ring

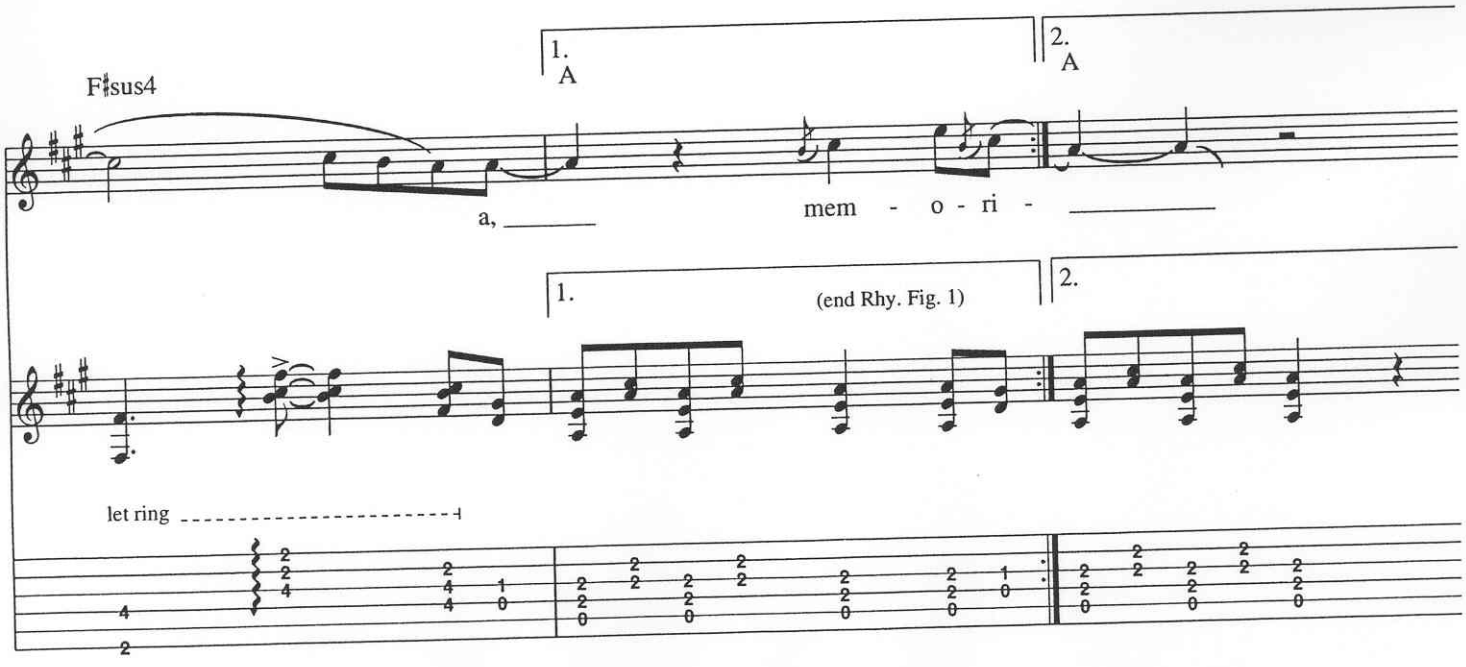

Coda
(A)
Chorus
Bsus4
Dadd9
And I swear that I
Gtr. 1
f
f
Gtr. 2
w/distortion
f

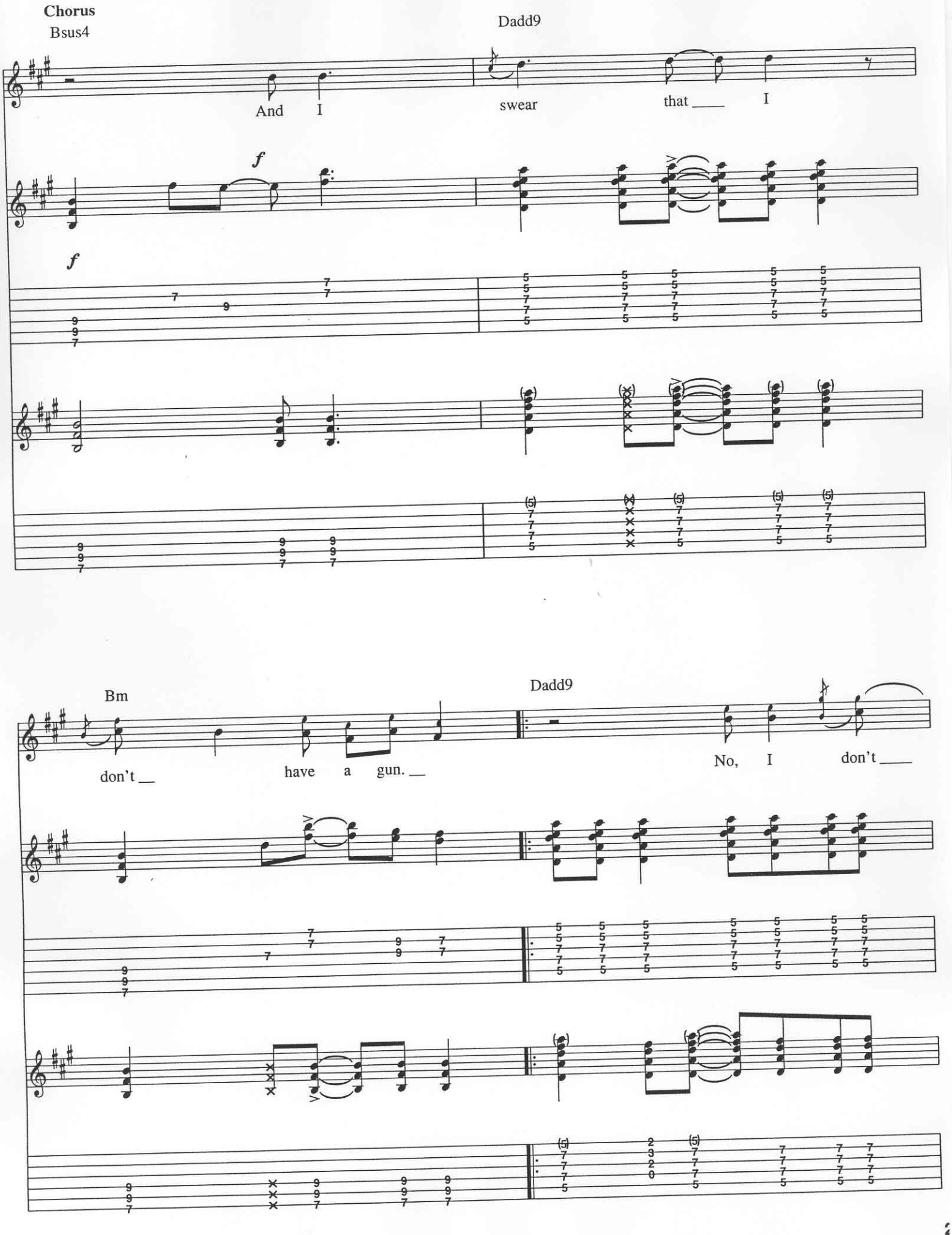

Bm
Dadd9
don't have a gun.
No, I don't

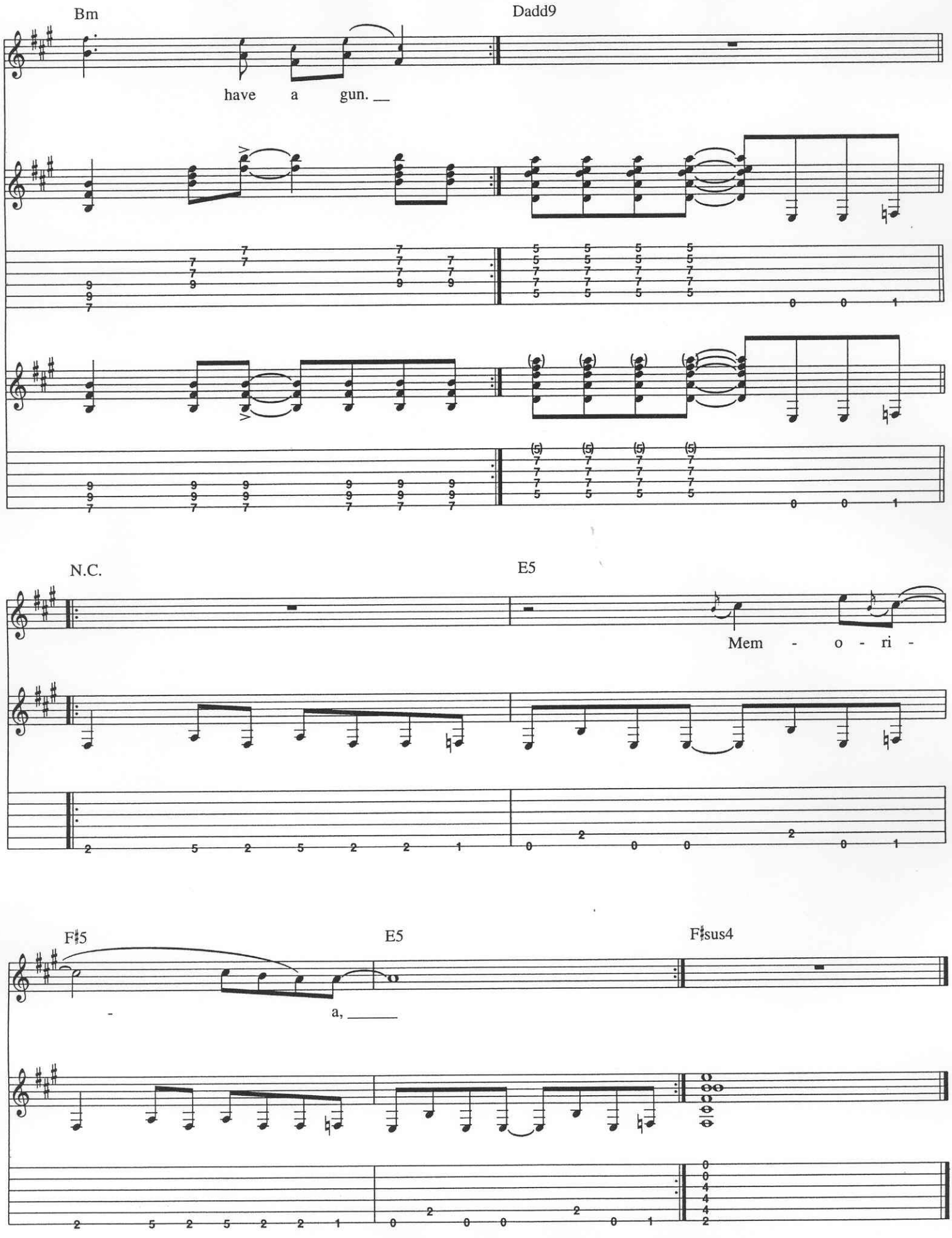

Bm
Dadd9
have a gun. __
E5
Solo
(E5)
Gtr. 3
Gtr. 1
cont. Riff A simile
N.C. (F♯m)
E5


(F♯m)
1.2.3.
E5
4.
E5
Mem - o - ri -
full
full


Pre - chorus
F♯sus4
A
a,
a,
mem - o - ri -
Rhy. Fig. 1
f
let ring

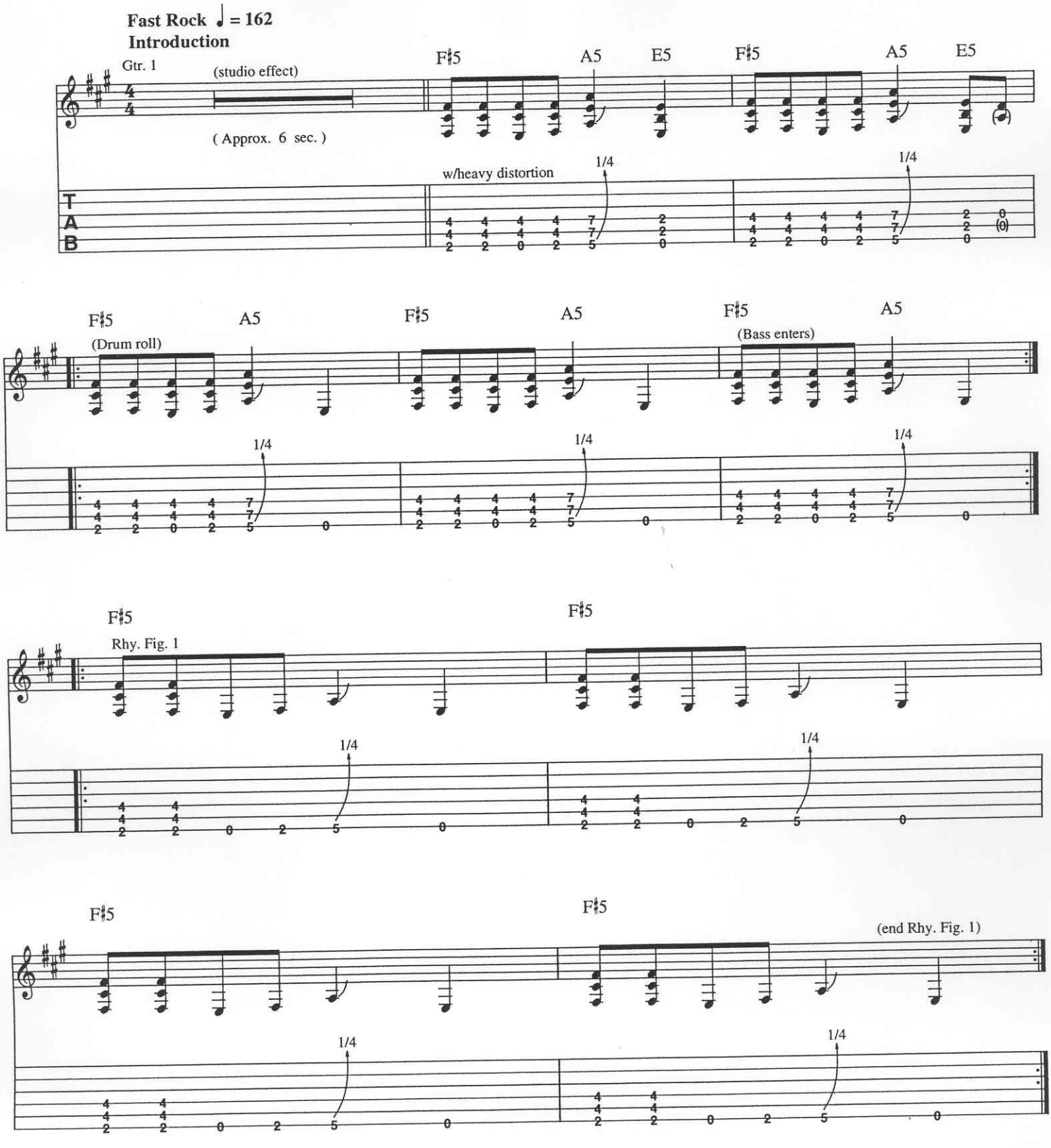

F♯sus4
1.
A
2.
A
a,
mem - o - ri -
1.
(end Rhy. Fig. 1)
2.
let ring


Chorus
Bsus4
Dadd9
And I
swear
that ___ I
f
f
Bm
Dadd9
don't __
have a gun. __
No, I don't ___


Bm
Dadd9
have a gun. __
N.C.
E5
Mem - o - ri -
F♯5
E5
F♯sus4
- a, _____

Breed

By Kurt Cobain



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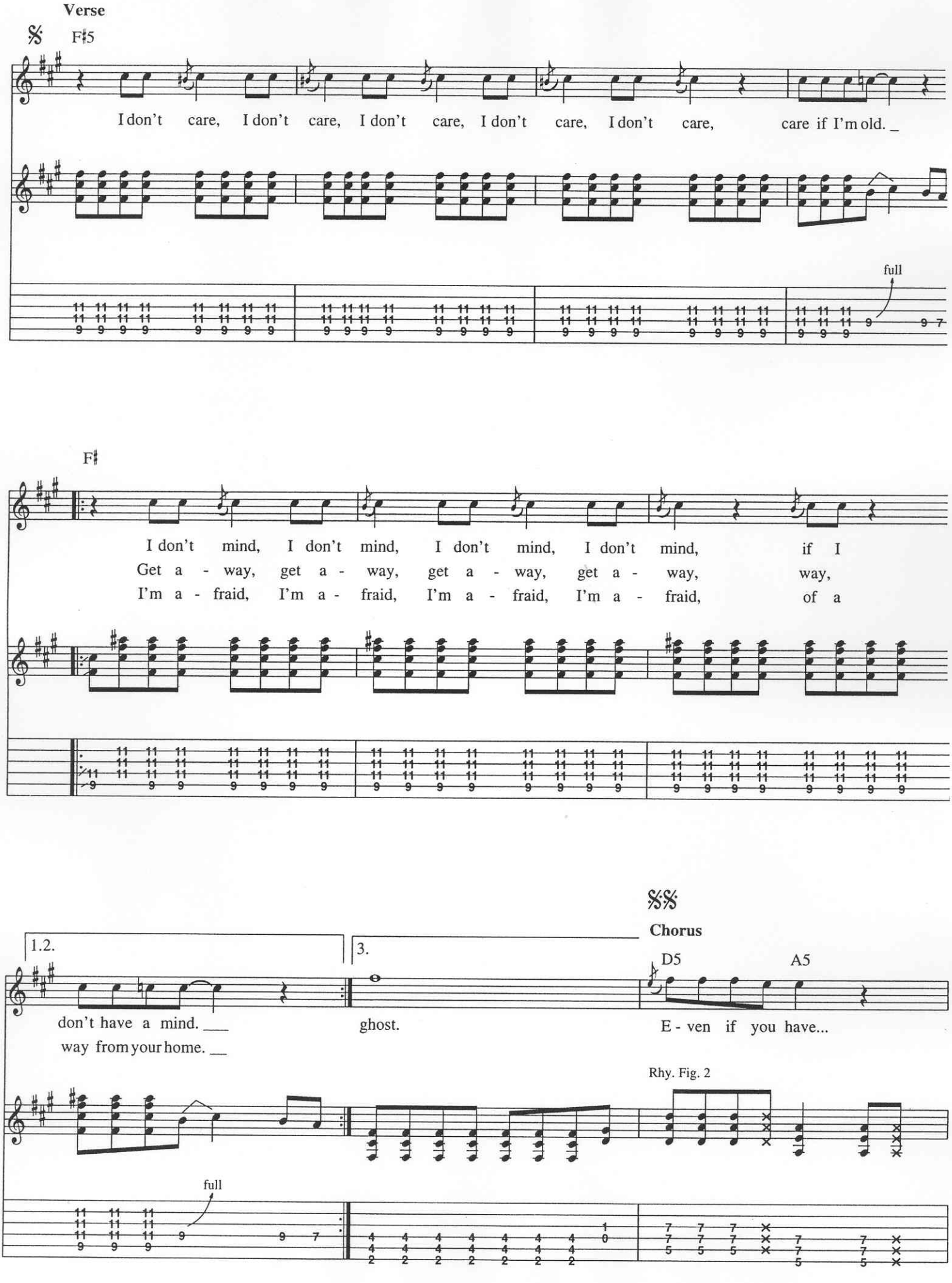
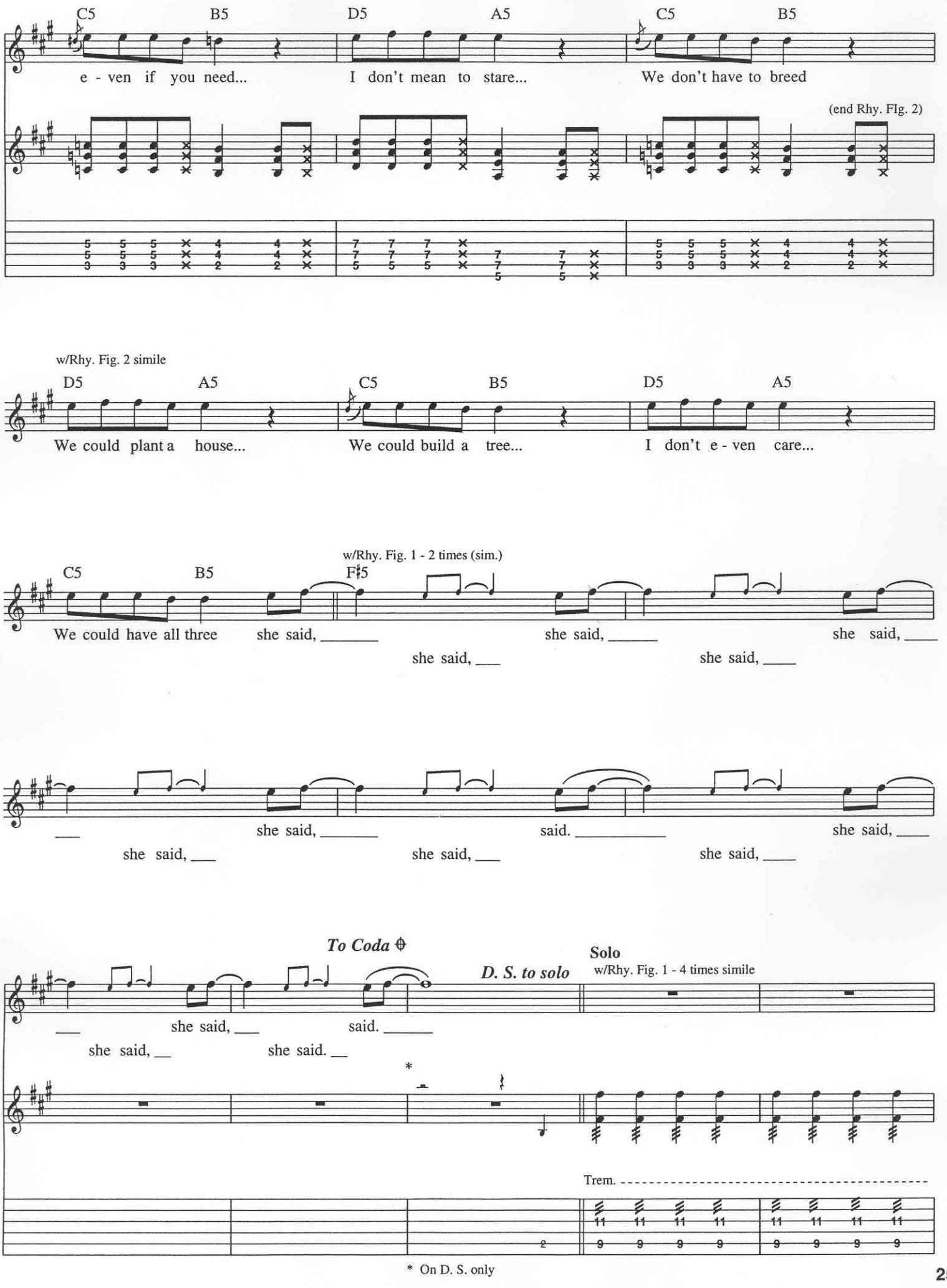
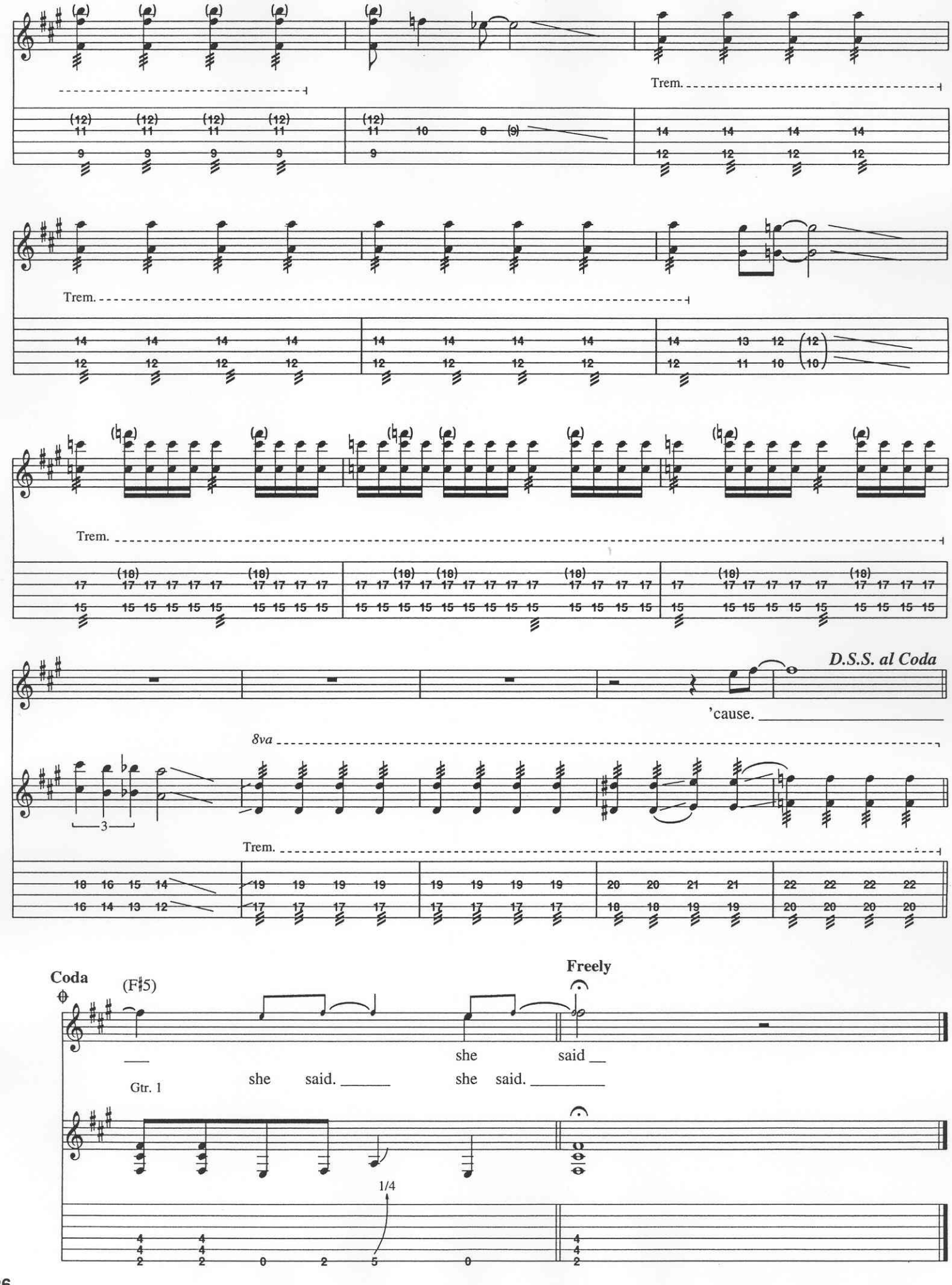

Verse
F♯5
I don't care, I don't care, I don't care, I don't care, I don't care, care if I'm old. _
full
F♯
I don't mind, I don't mind, I don't mind, I don't mind, if I
Get a - way, get a - way, get a - way, get a - way, way,
I'm a - fraid, I'm a - fraid, I'm a - fraid, I'm a - fraid, of a
1.2.
3.
don't have a mind. ___
way from your home. __
ghost.
Chorus
D5
A5
E - ven if you have...
Rhy. Fig. 2
full


C5 B5 D5 A5 C5 B5
e - ven if you need... I don't mean to stare... We don't have to breed
(end Rhy. FIg. 2)
w/Rhy. Fig. 2 simile
D5 A5 C5 B5 D5 A5
We could plant a house... We could build a tree... I don't e - ven care...
w/Rhy. Fig. 1 - 2 times (sim.)
C5 B5 F♯5
We could have all three she said, _____ she said, _____ she said, ____
she said, ___ she said, ____
___ she said, _____ said. _____ she said, ____
she said, ___ she said, ___ she said, ____
To Coda ⊕
D. S. to solo
Solo
w/Rhy. Fig. 1 - 4 times simile
___ she said, ___ said. _____
she said, __ she said. __
*
Trem.

* On D. S. only


Trem.
Trem.
Trem.
D.S.S. al Coda
'cause.
8va
3
Trem.
Coda
(F♯5)
Freely
she said.
she said.
she said.
Gtr. 1
1/4

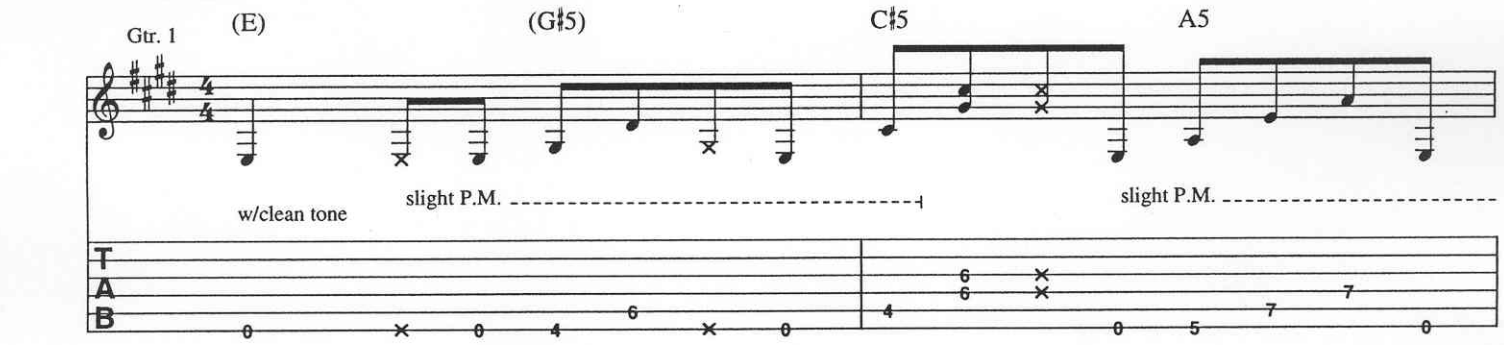
Lithium

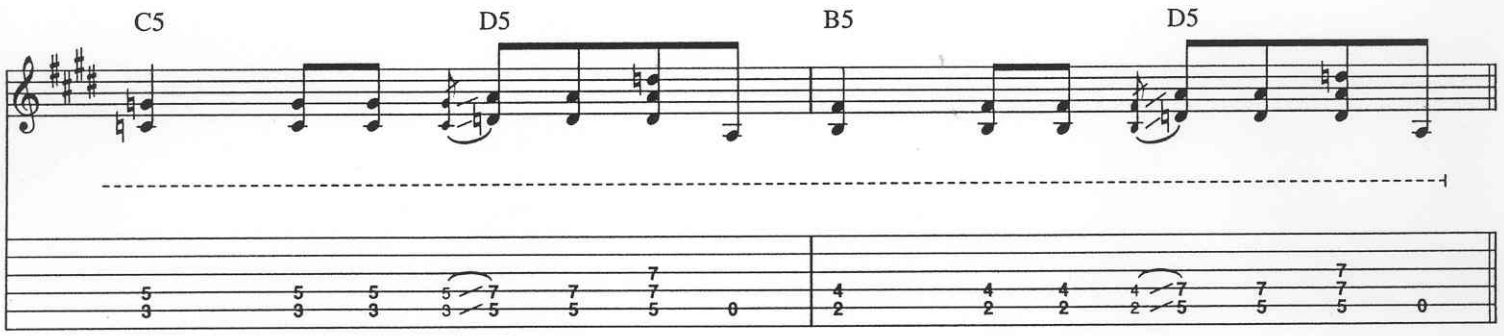
By Kurt Cobain

Tune down a step:
(1) = D (2) = A
(3) = F (4) = C
(5) = G (6) = D

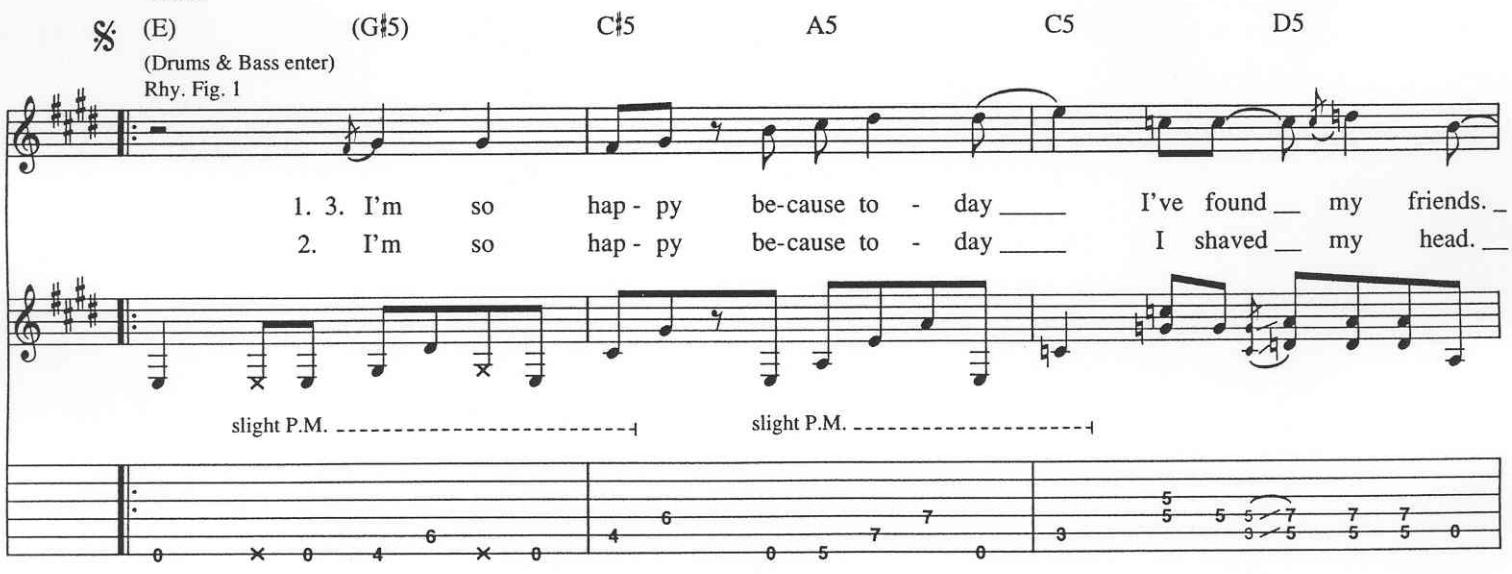
Moderate Rock ♩ = 124

Introduction





Verse



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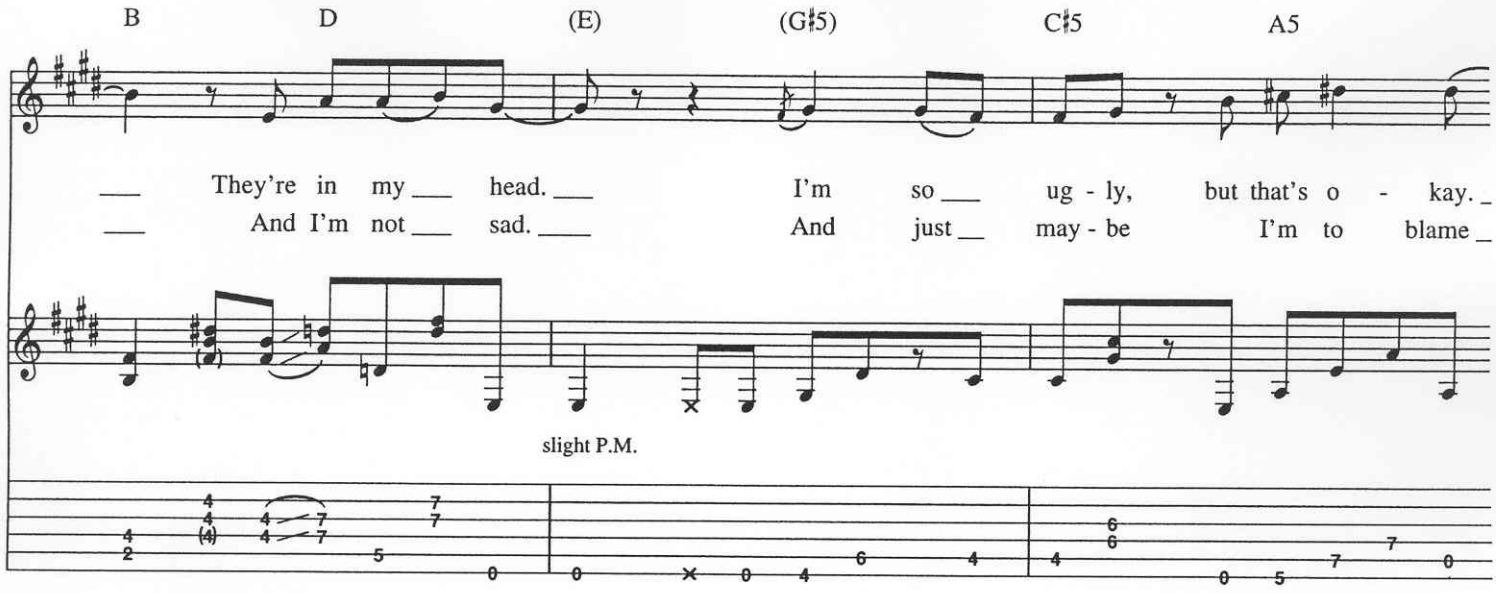
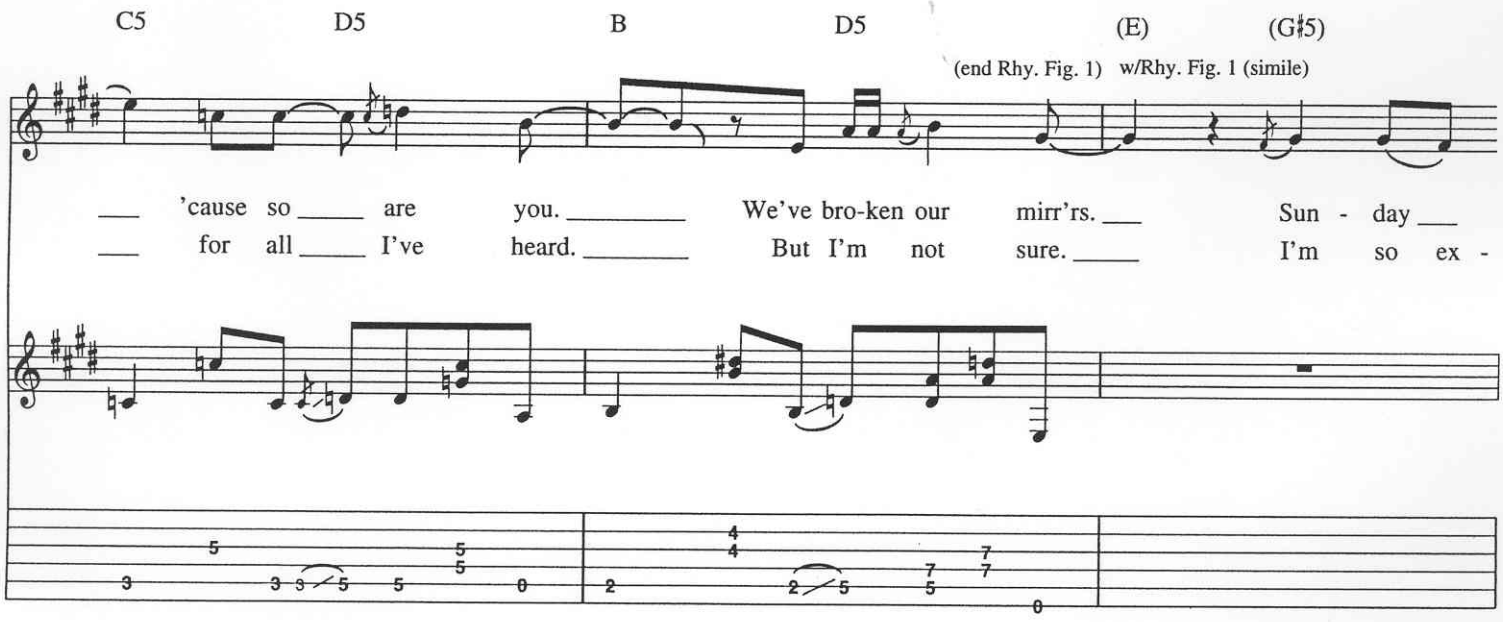
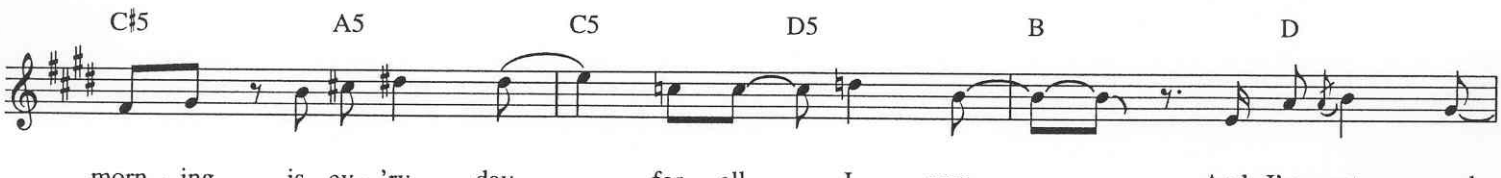
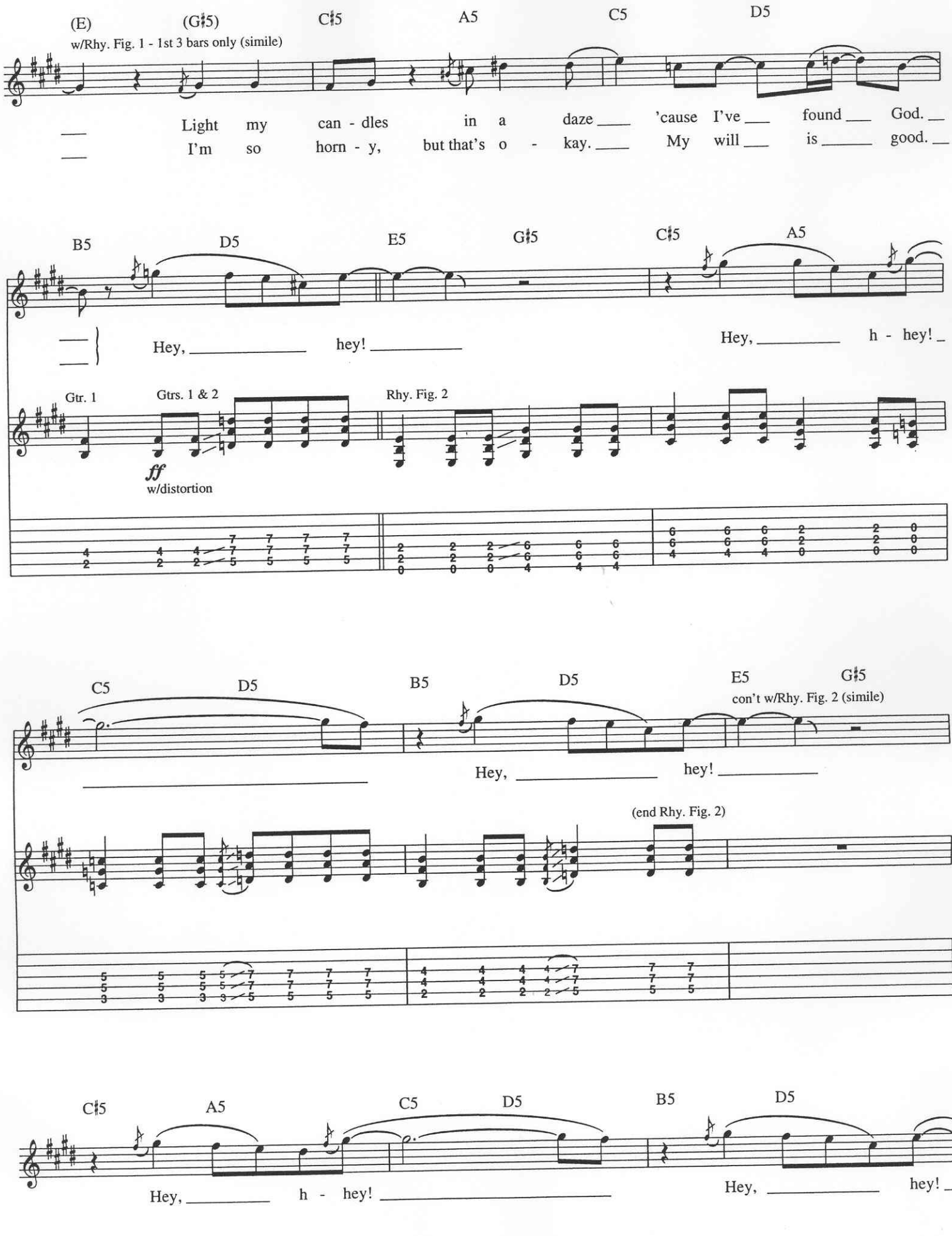
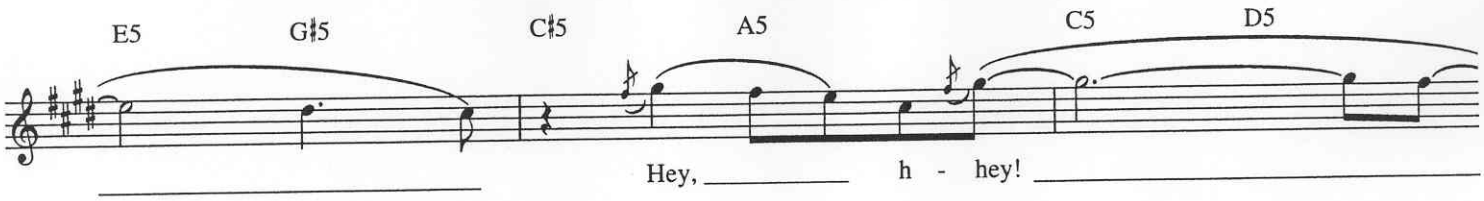
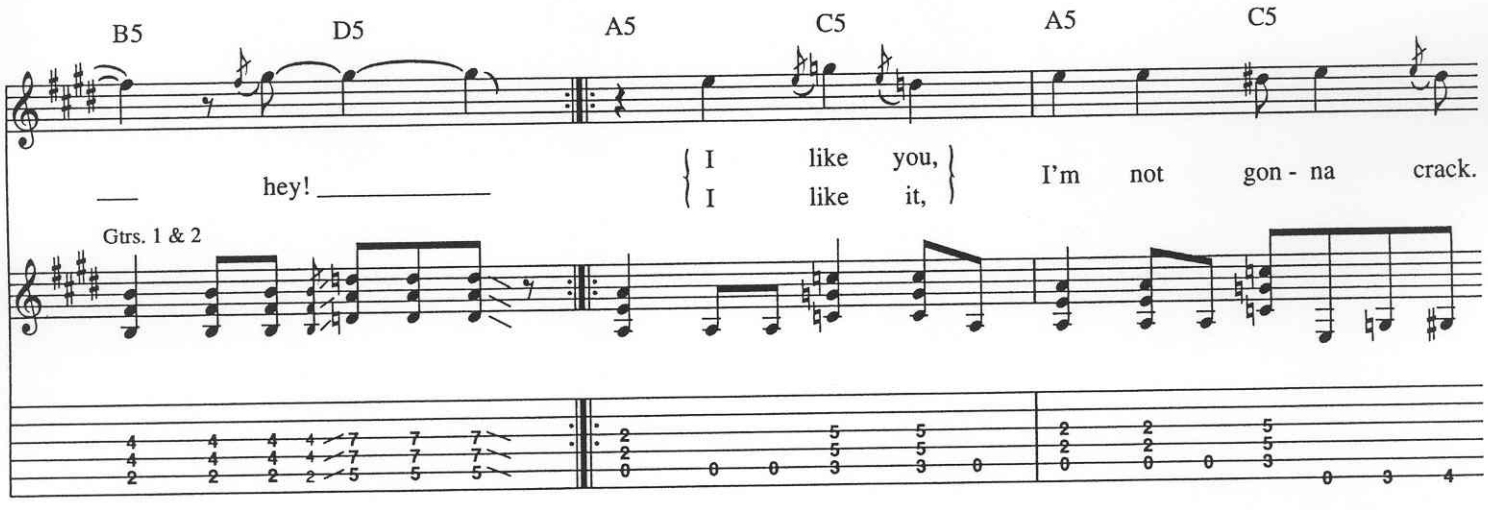

B
D
(E)
(G♯5)
C♯5
A5
___ They're in my ___ head. ___ I'm so ___ ug - ly, but that's o - kay. _
___ And I'm not ___ sad. ___ And just __ may - be I'm to blame _
slight P.M.

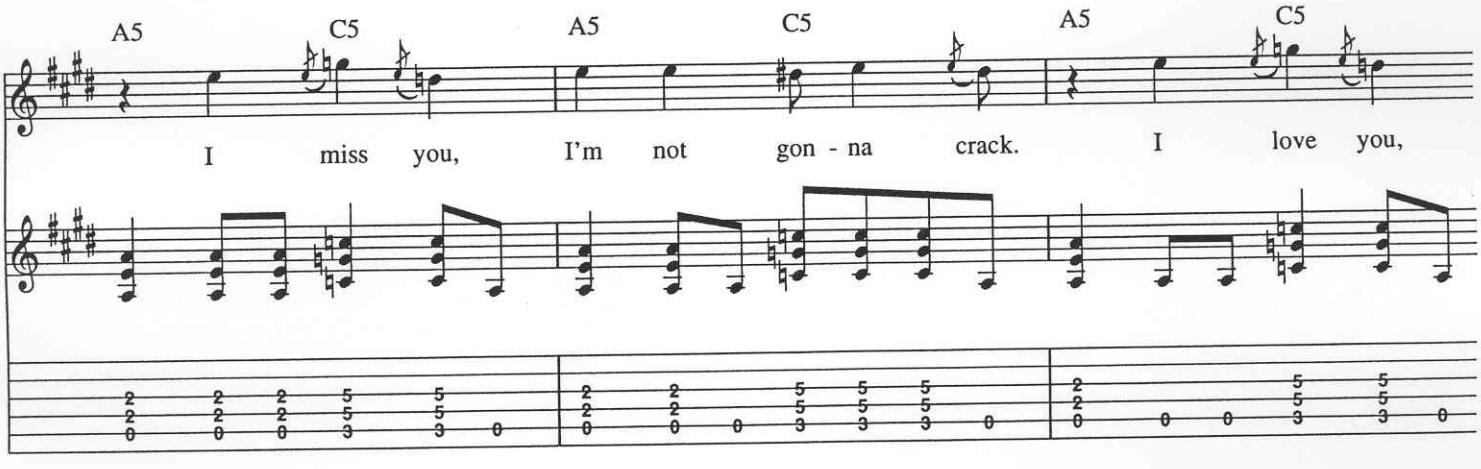

C5
D5
B
D5
(E)
(G♯5)
(end Rhy. Fig. 1)
w/Rhy. Fig. 1 (simile)
___ 'cause so ____ are you. _____ We've bro-ken our mirr'rs. ___ Sun - day ___
___ for all ____ I've heard. _____ But I'm not sure. ____ I'm so ex -

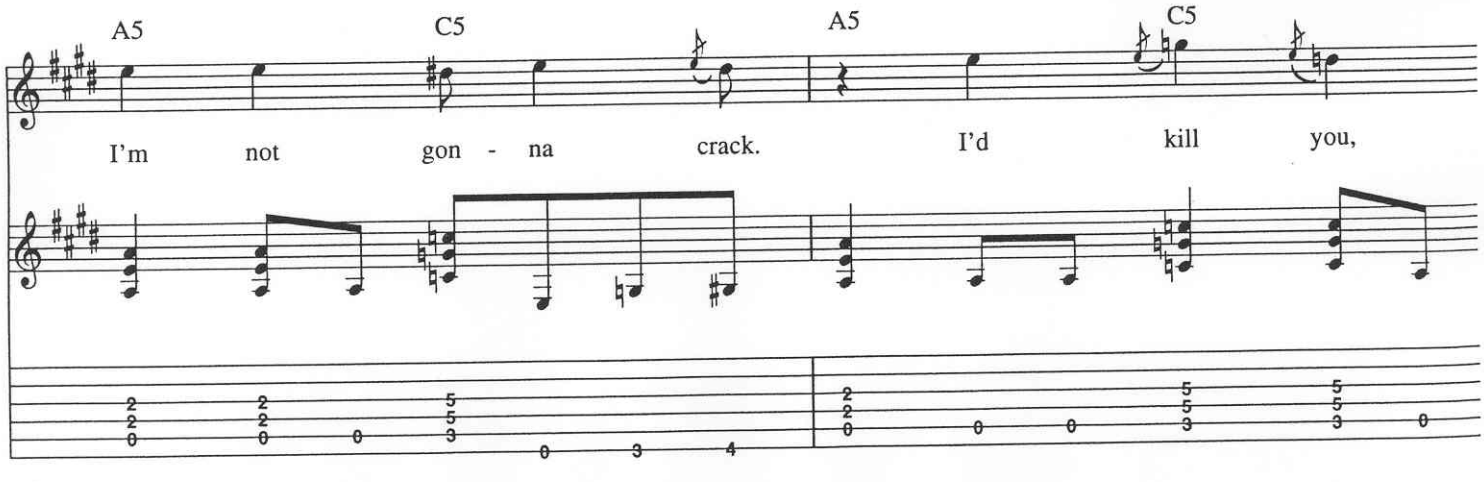

C♯5
A5
C5
D5
B
D
morn - ing is ev - 'ry day. ____ for all ____ I care. _____ And I'm not scared. _
cit - ed, I can't wait ____ to meet ____ you there. _____ But I don't care. __

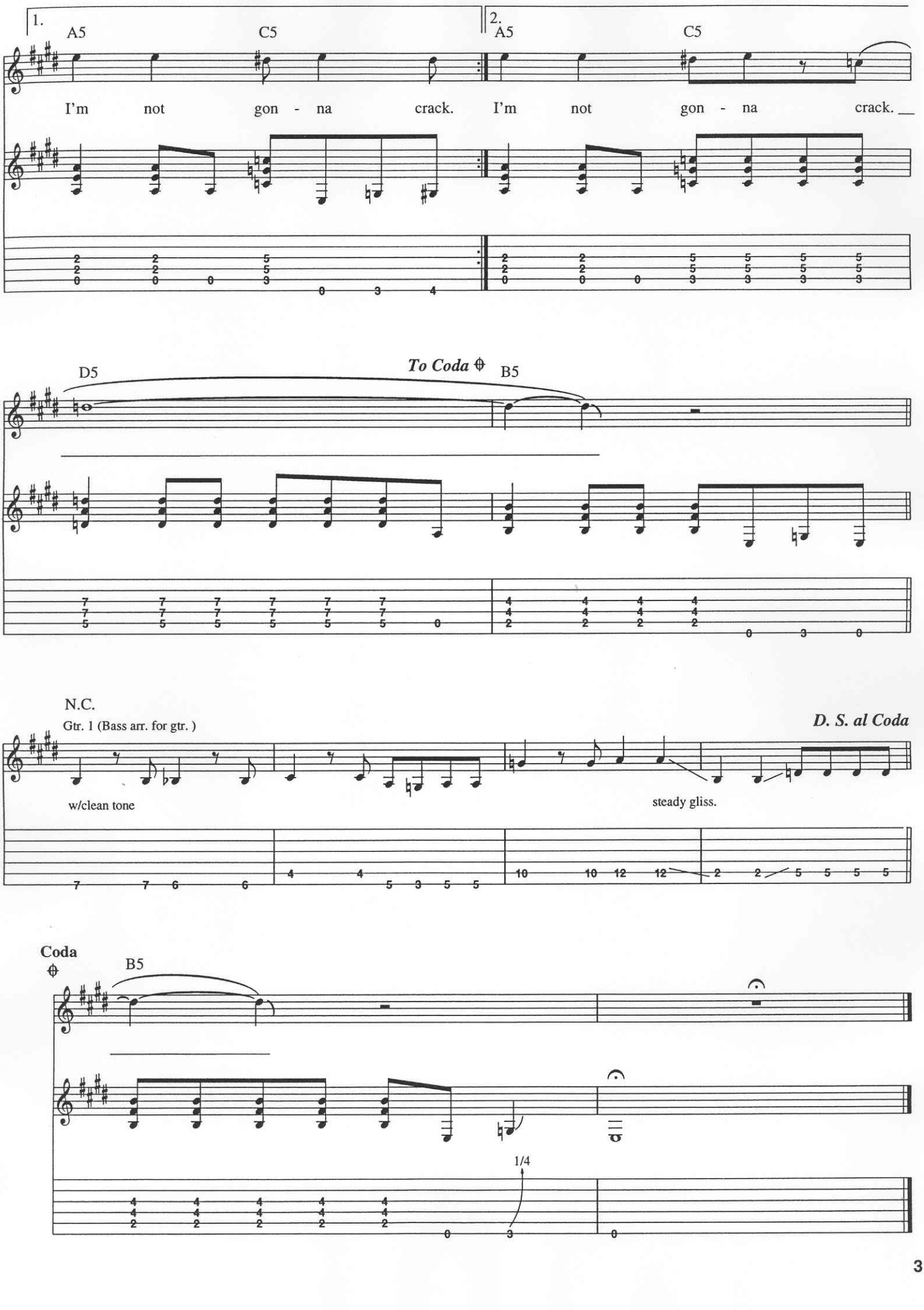

(E)
(G♯5)
C♯5
A5
C5
D5
w/Rhy. Fig. 1 - 1st 3 bars only (simile)
Light my can - dles in a daze 'cause I've found God.
I'm so horn - y, but that's o - kay. My will is good.
B5
D5
E5
G♯5
C♯5
A5
Hey, hey!
Hey, h - hey!
Gtr. 1
Gtrs. 1 & 2
Rhy. Fig. 2
ff
w/distortion
C5
D5
B5
D5
E5
G♯5
con't w/Rhy. Fig. 2 (simile)
Hey, hey!
(end Rhy. Fig. 2)
C♯5
A5
C5
D5
B5
D5
Hey, h - hey!
Hey, hey!


E5
G♯5
C♯5
A5
C5
D5
Hey, h - hey!


B5
D5
A5
C5
A5
C5
hey!
I like you,
I like it,
I'm not gon - na crack.
Gtrs. 1 & 2

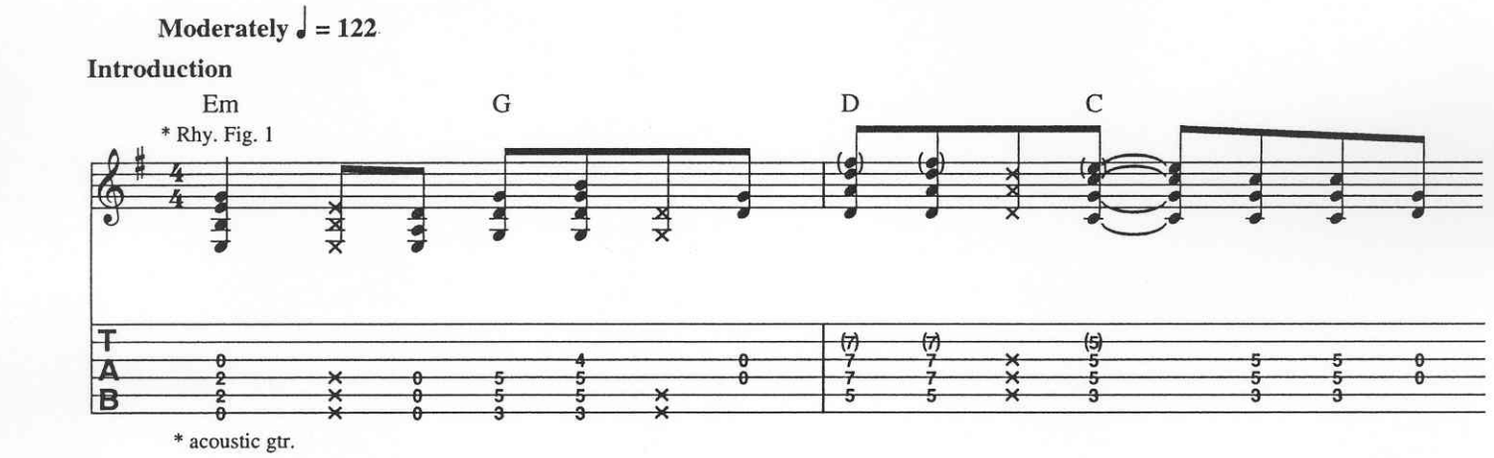

A5
C5
A5
C5
A5
C5
I miss you, I'm not gon - na crack. I love you,

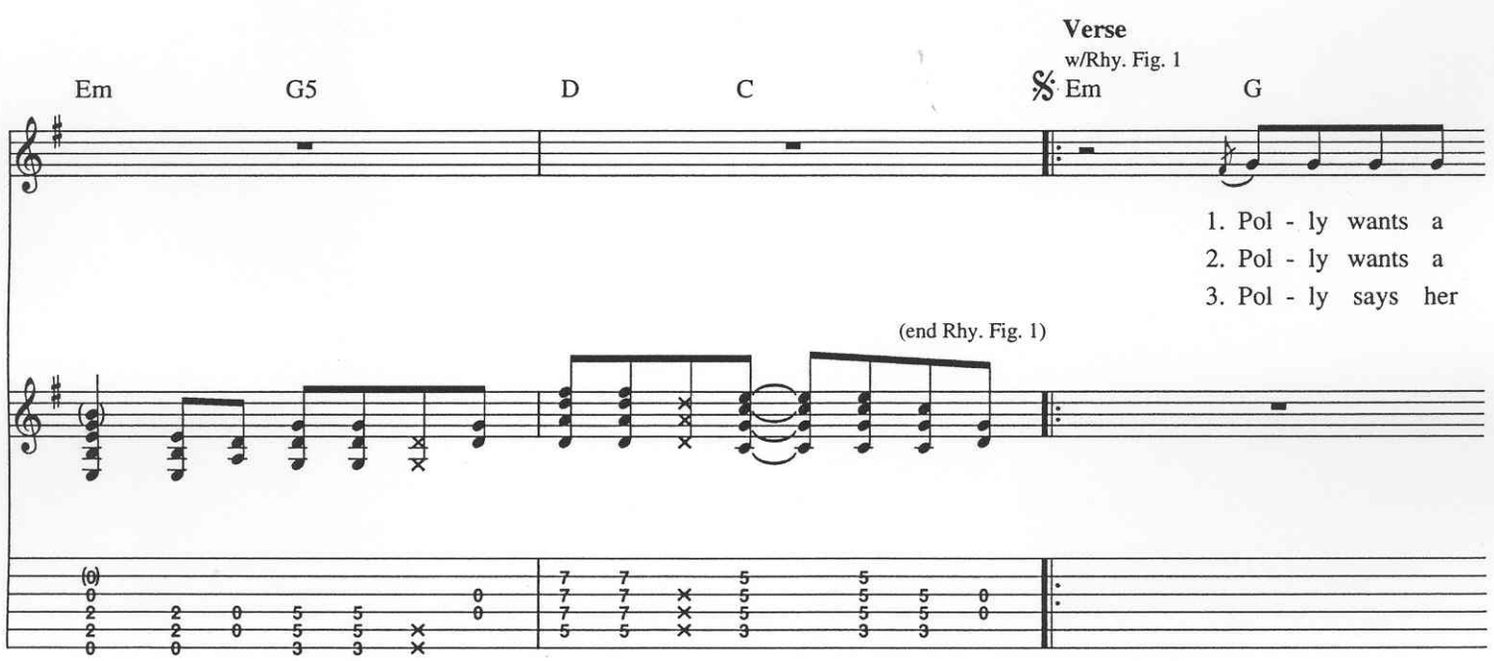

A5
C5
A5
C5
I'm not gon - na crack. I'd kill you,

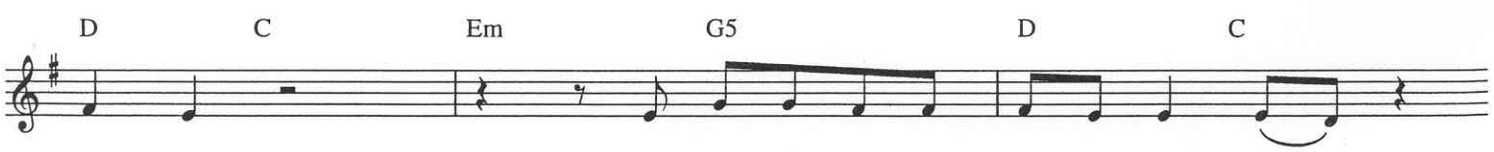

1.
A5
C5
2.
A5
C5
I'm not gon - na crack.
I'm not gon - na crack.
D5
To Coda
B5
N.C.
Gtr. 1 (Bass arr. for gtr.)
w/clean tone
steady gliss.
D. S. al Coda
Coda
B5
1/4

Polly

By Kurt Cobain







crack - er, I think I should get off of her first. ___
crack - er, may - be she would like more food.
back hurts, and she's just as bored as me,

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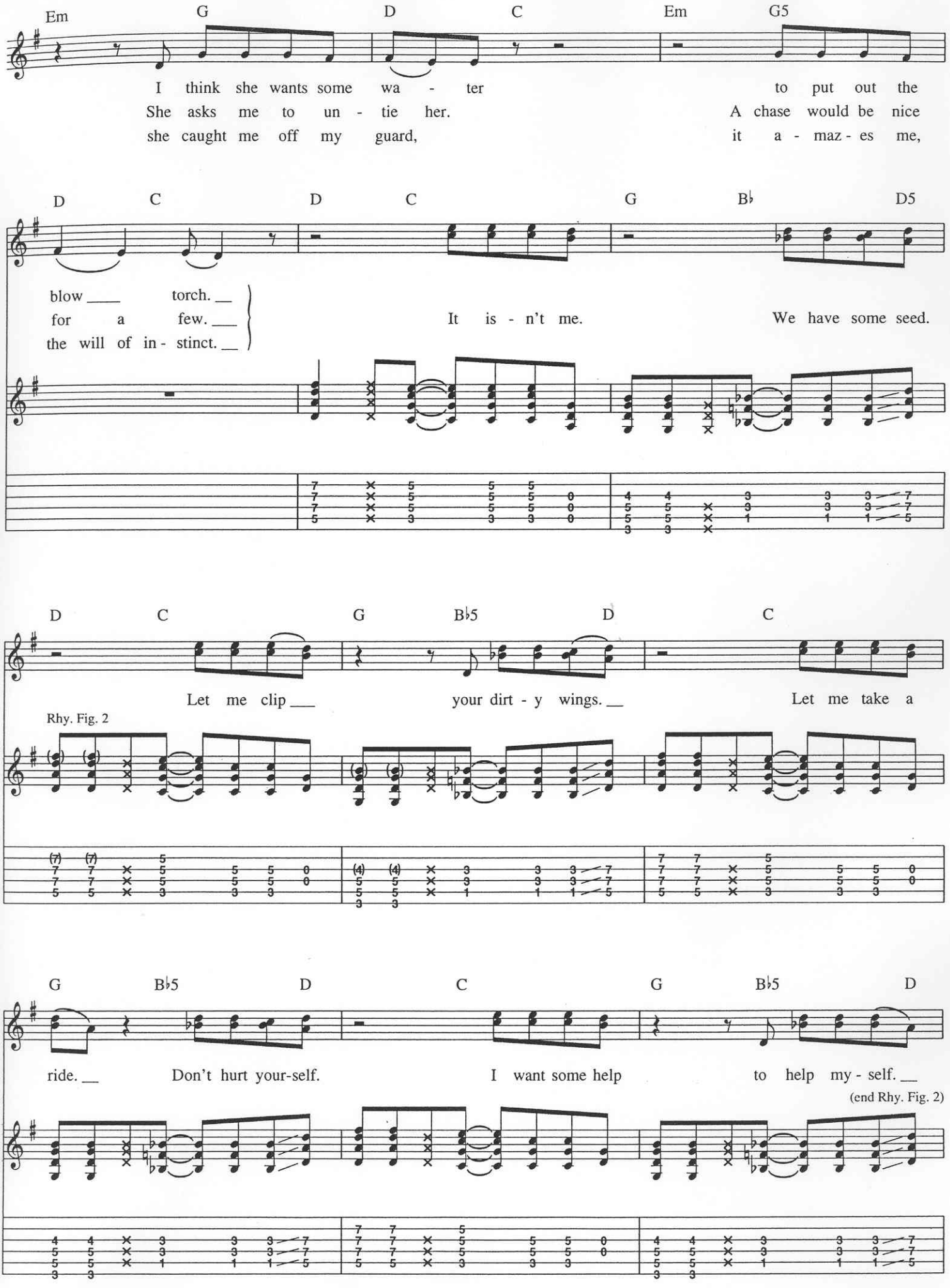
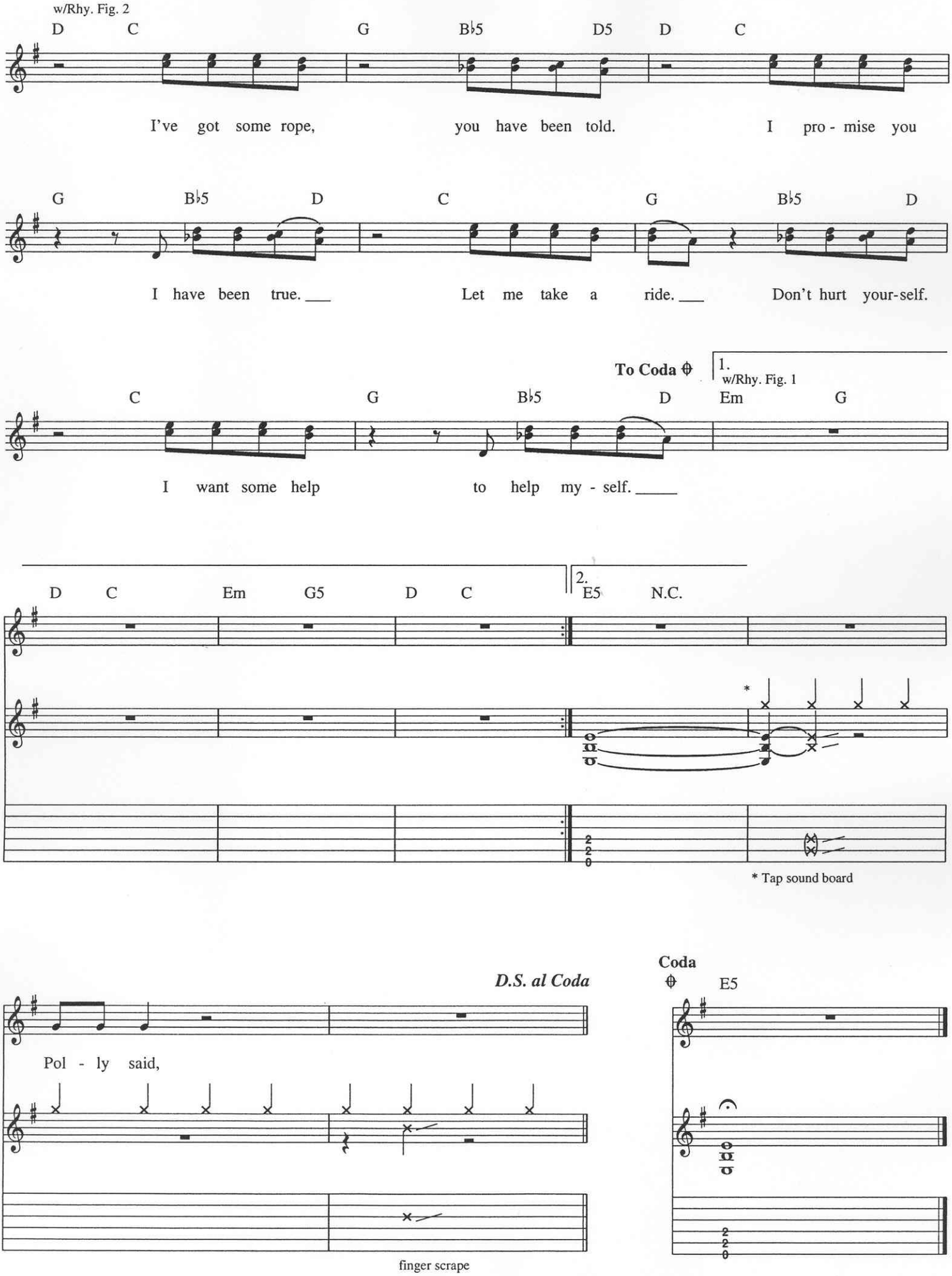
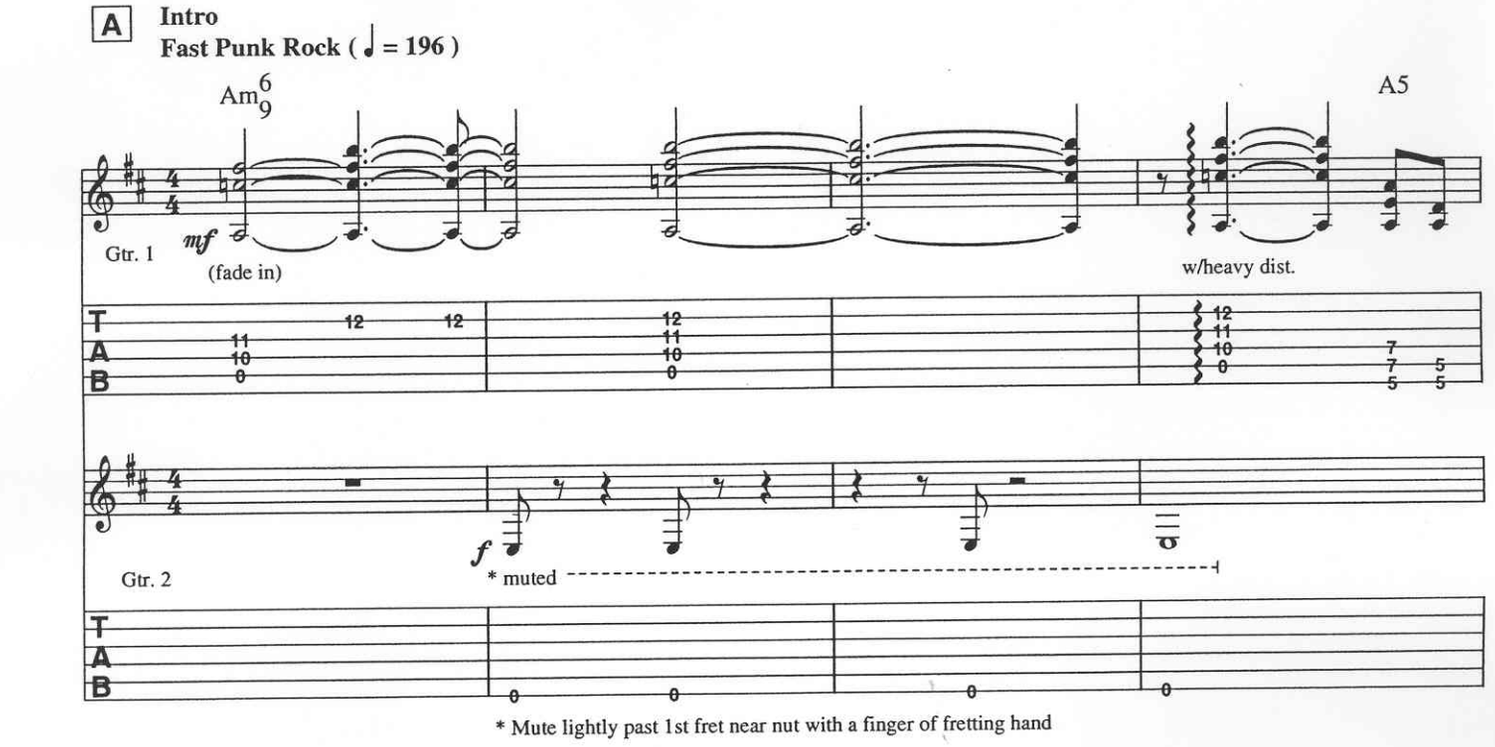
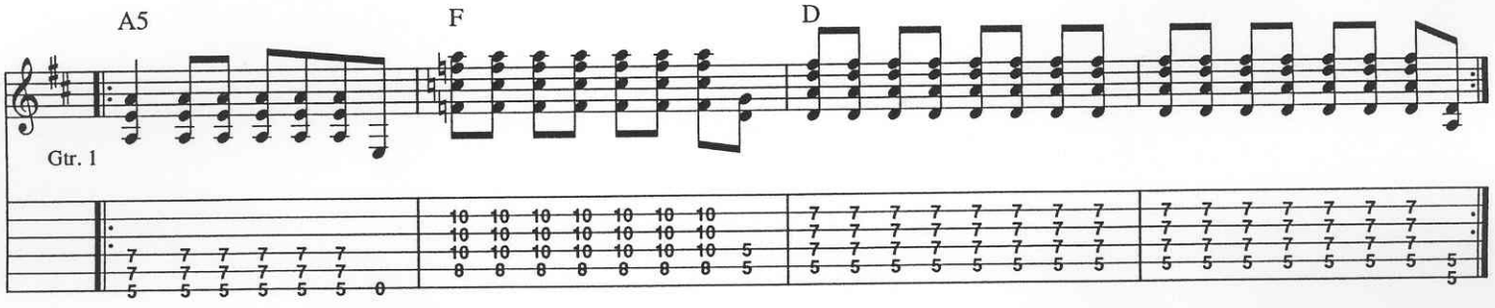

Em G D C Em G5
I think she wants some wa - ter to put out the
She asks me to un - tie her. A chase would be nice
she caught me off my guard, it a - maz - es me,
D C D C G B♭ D5
blow ___ torch. __
for a few. ___
the will of in - stinct. __
It is - n't me. We have some seed.
D C G B♭5 D C
Let me clip ___ your dirt - y wings. __ Let me take a
Rhy. Fig. 2
G B♭5 D C G B♭5 D
ride. __ Don't hurt your-self. I want some help to help my - self. __
(end Rhy. Fig. 2)

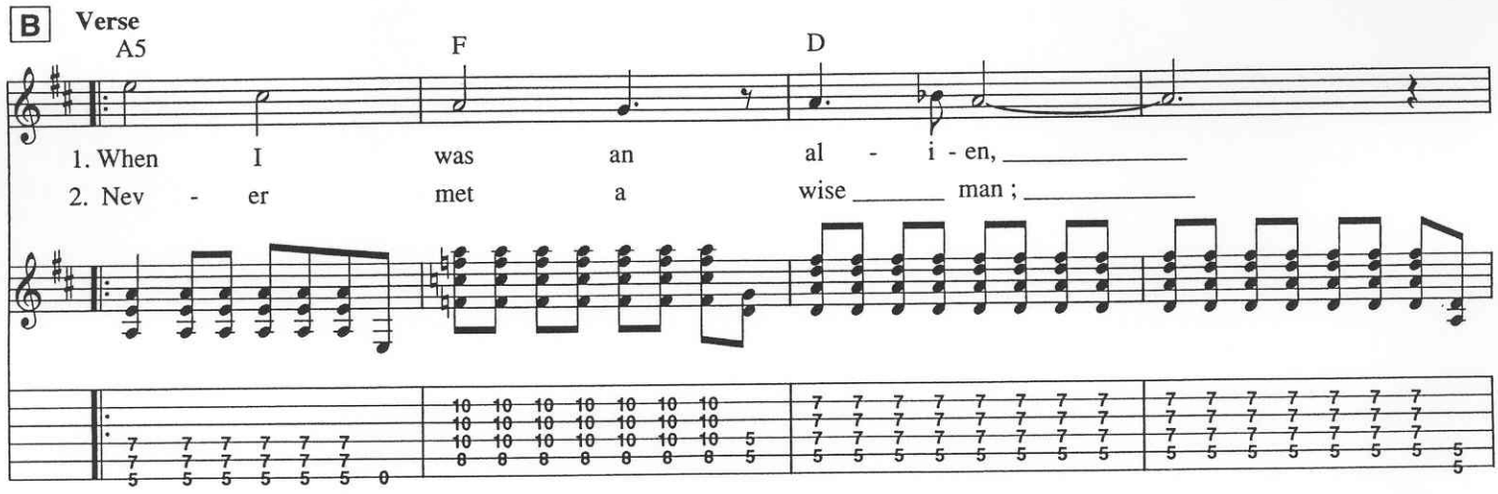

w/Rhy. Fig. 2
D C G B♭5 D5 D C
I've got some rope, you have been told. I pro - mise you
G B♭5 D C G B♭5 D
I have been true. Let me take a ride. Don't hurt your-self.
To Coda
1.
w/Rhy. Fig. 1
C G B♭5 D Em G
I want some help to help my - self.
D C Em G5 D C
2.
E5 N.C.
* Tap sound board
D.S. al Coda
Pol - ly said,
finger scrape
Coda
E5

Territorial Pissings

By Kurt Cobain







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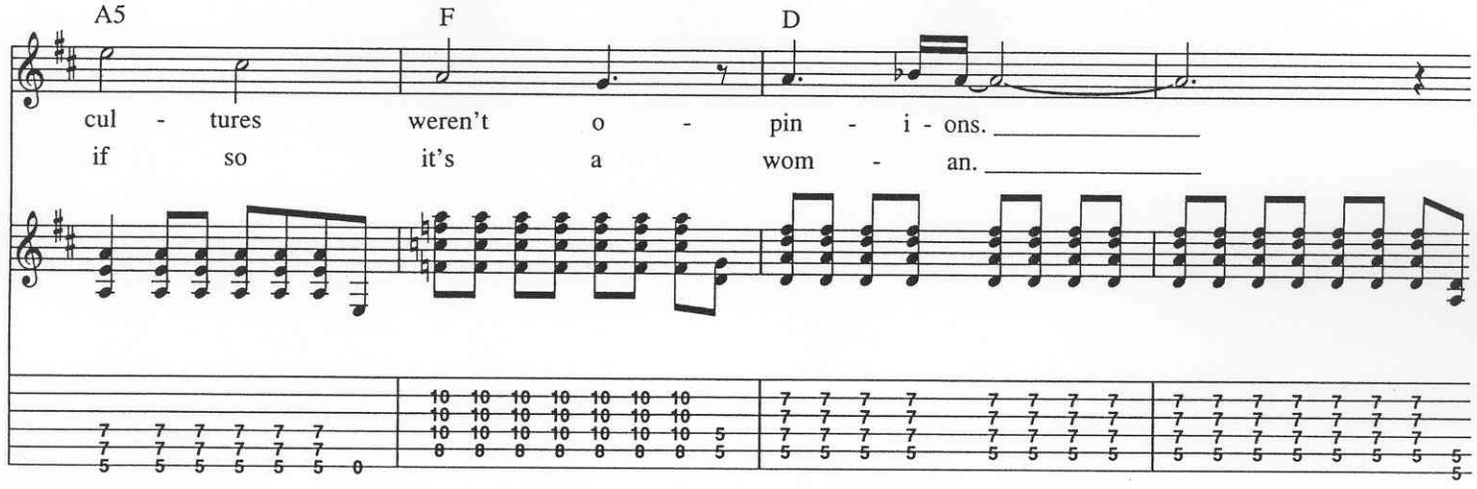
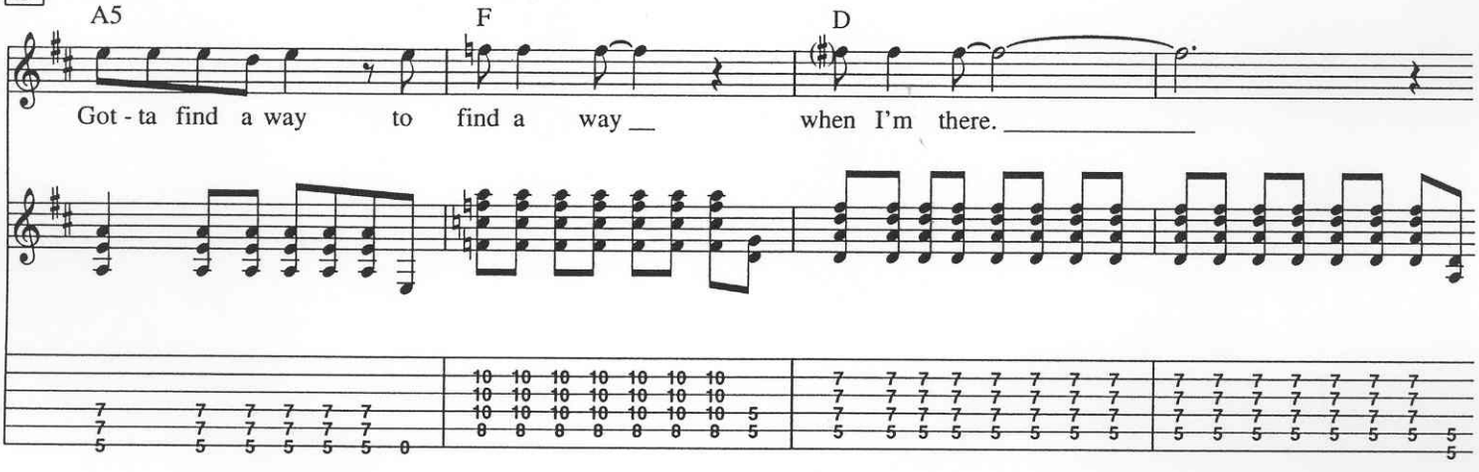
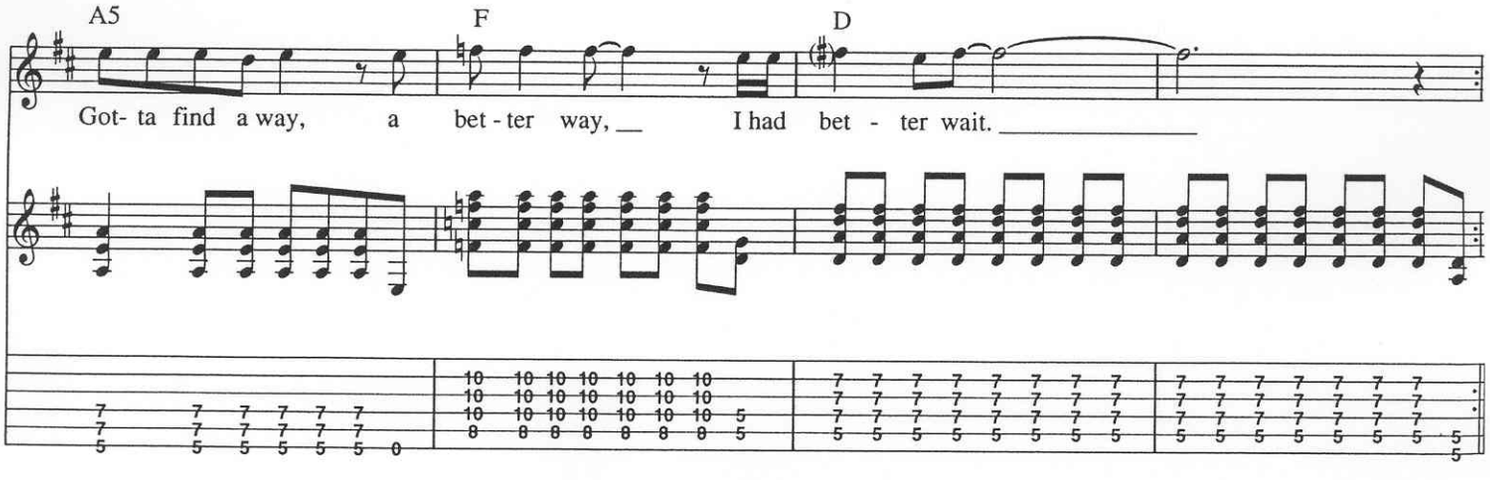
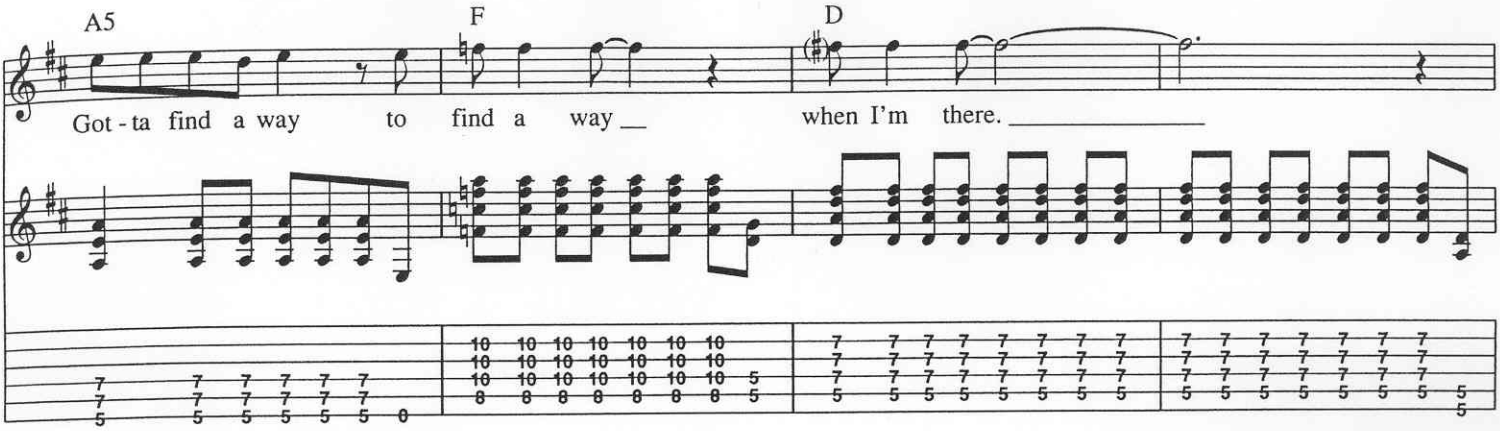
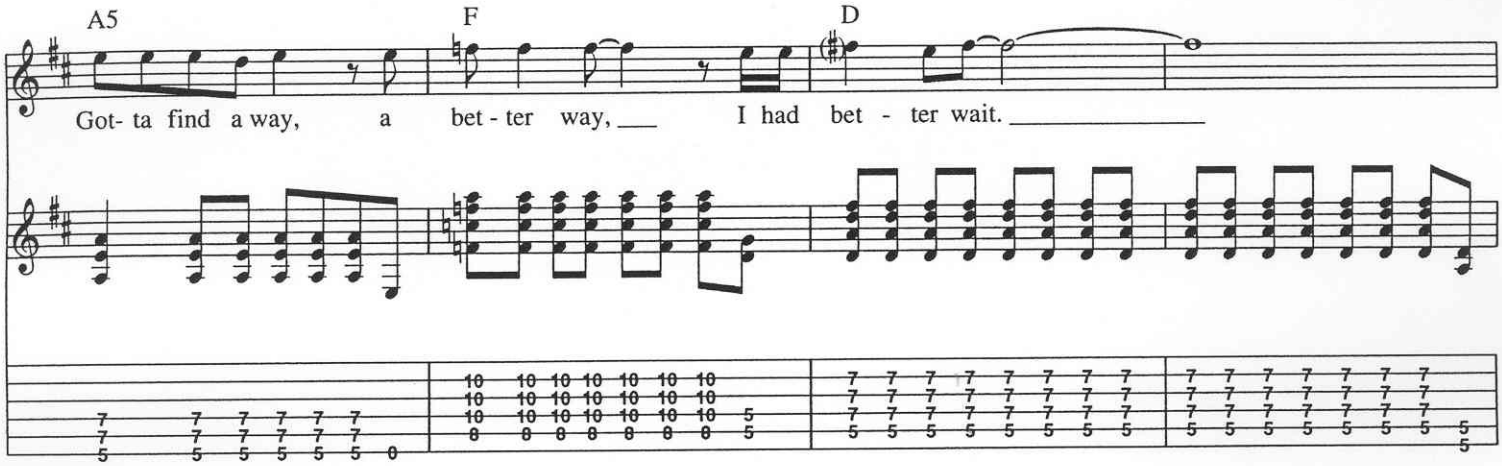

A5
F
D
cul - tures weren't o - pin - i - ons.
if so it's a wom - an.

C **Chorus**

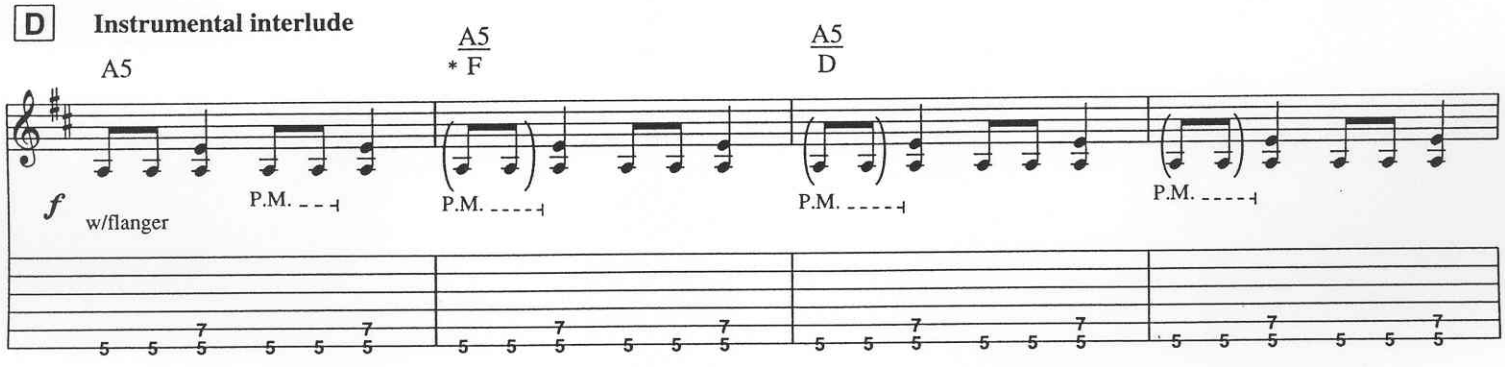

A5
F
D
Got - ta find a way to find a way when I'm there.


A5
F
D
Got- ta find a way, a bet - ter way, I had bet - ter wait.

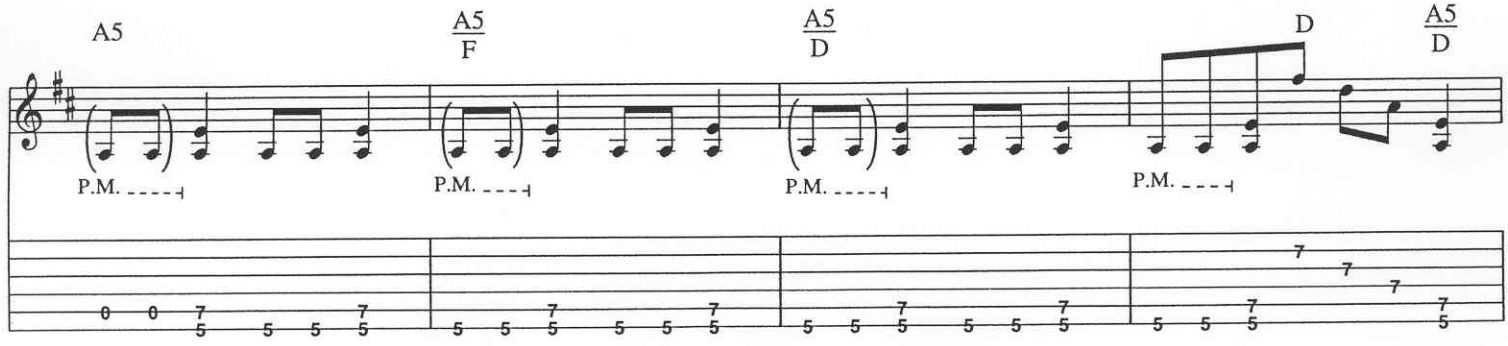


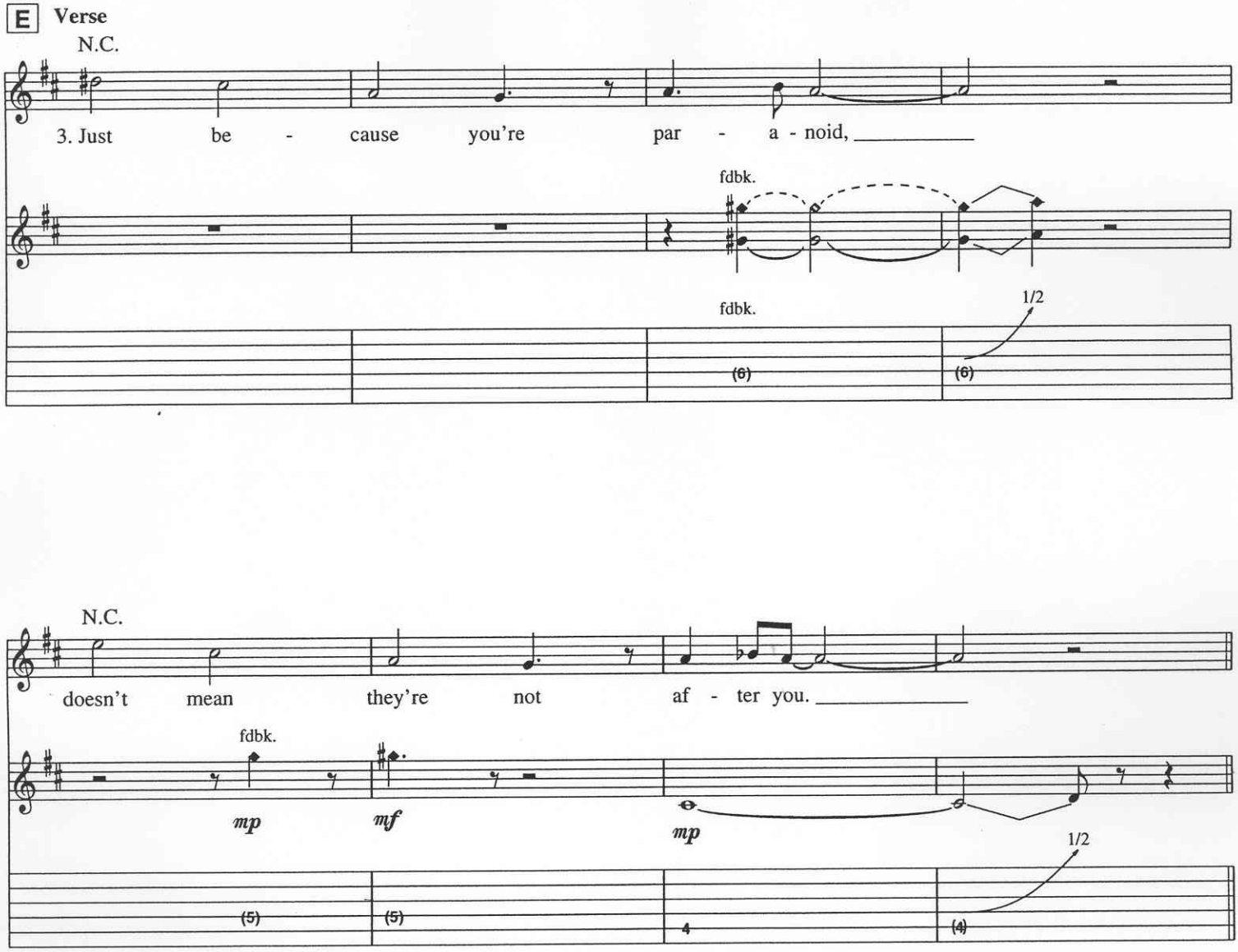


D **Instrumental interlude**

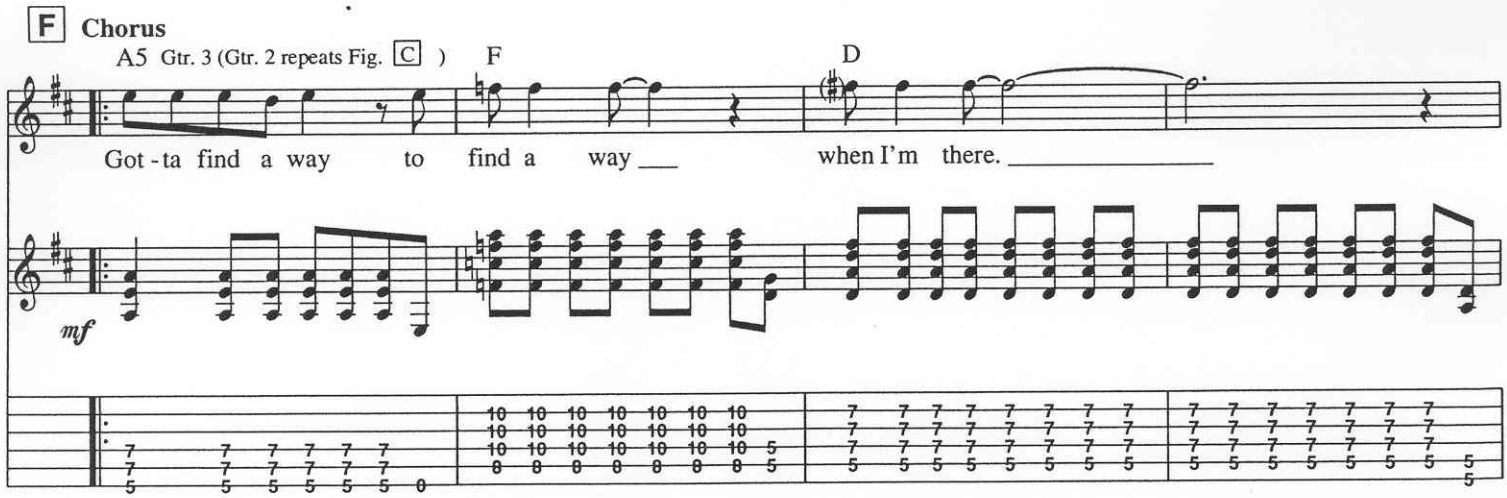


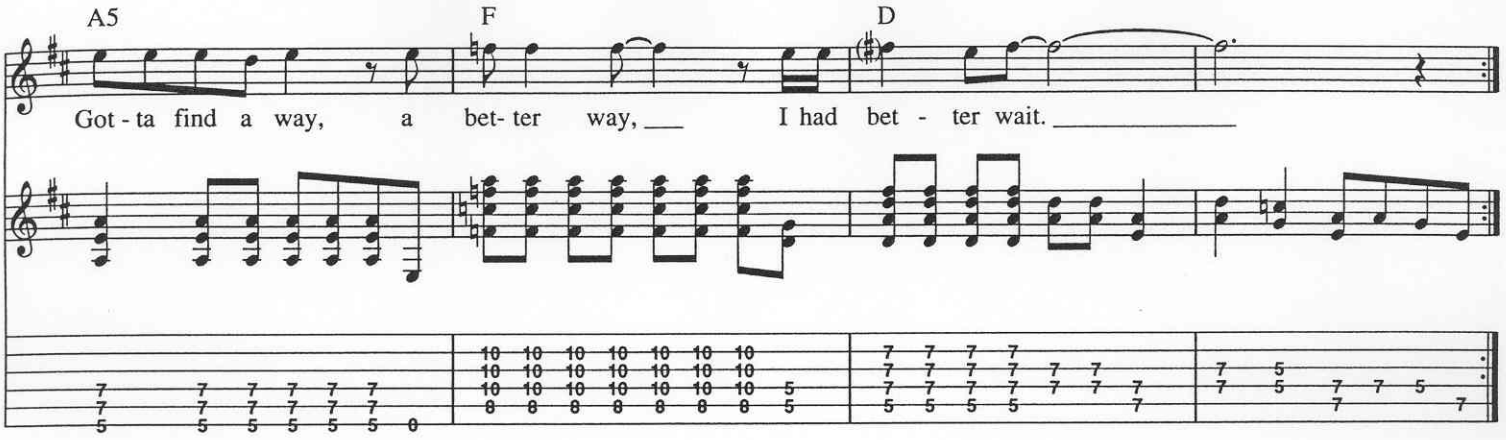
* Overall harmonic analysis. The bass plays lowest note of polychord

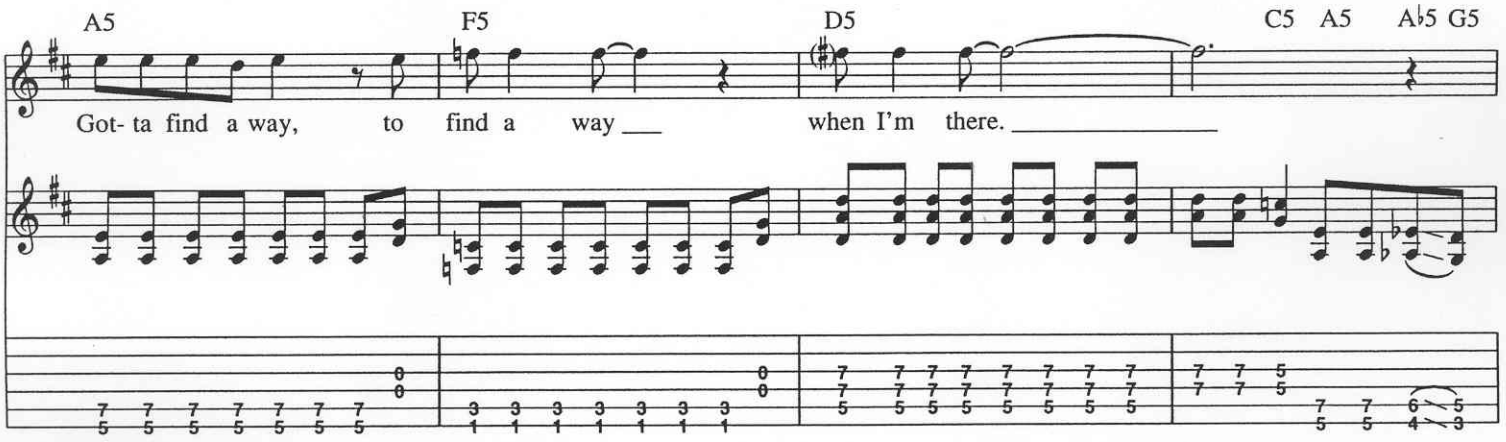


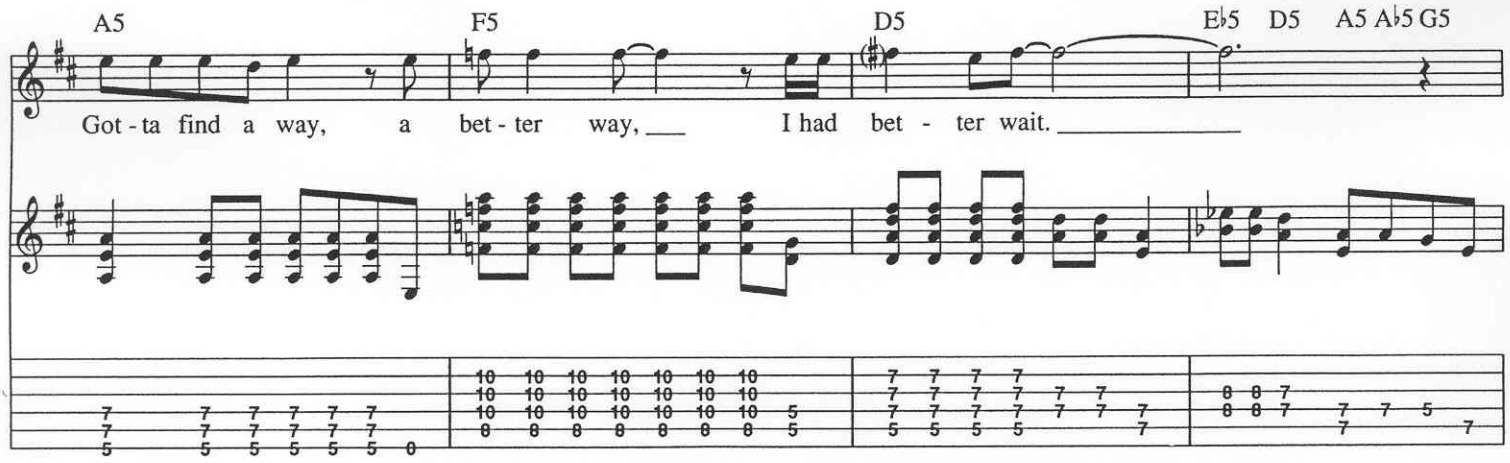

E Verse
N.C.
3. Just be - cause you're par - a - noid, _____
fdbk.
fdbk.
1/2
(6)
(6)

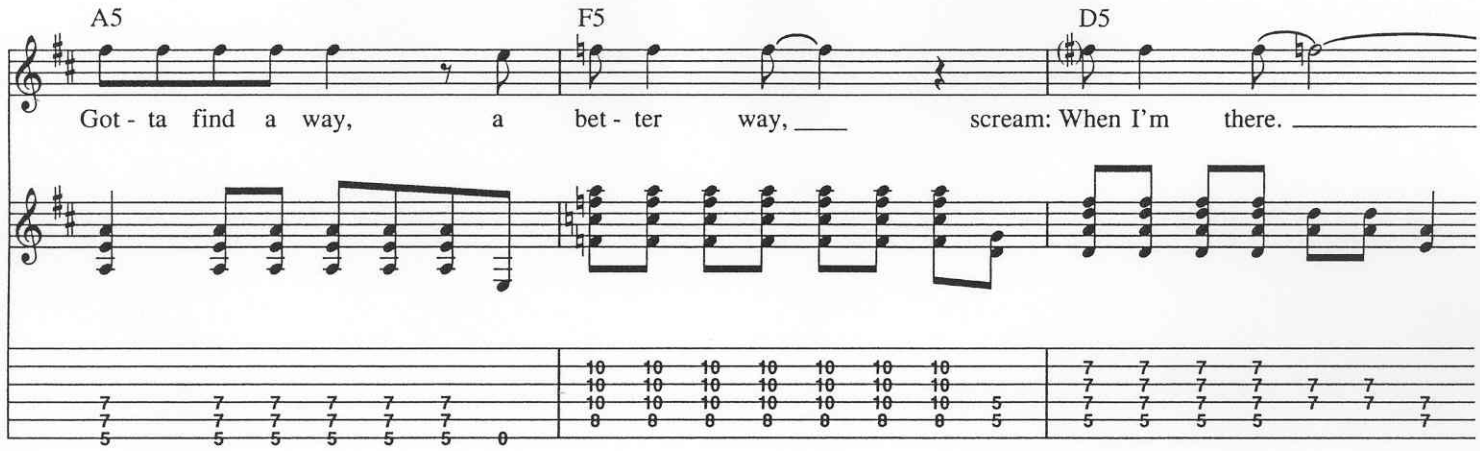
N.C.
doesn't mean they're not af - ter you. _____
fdbk.
mp
mf
mp
1/2
(5)
(5)
4
(4)

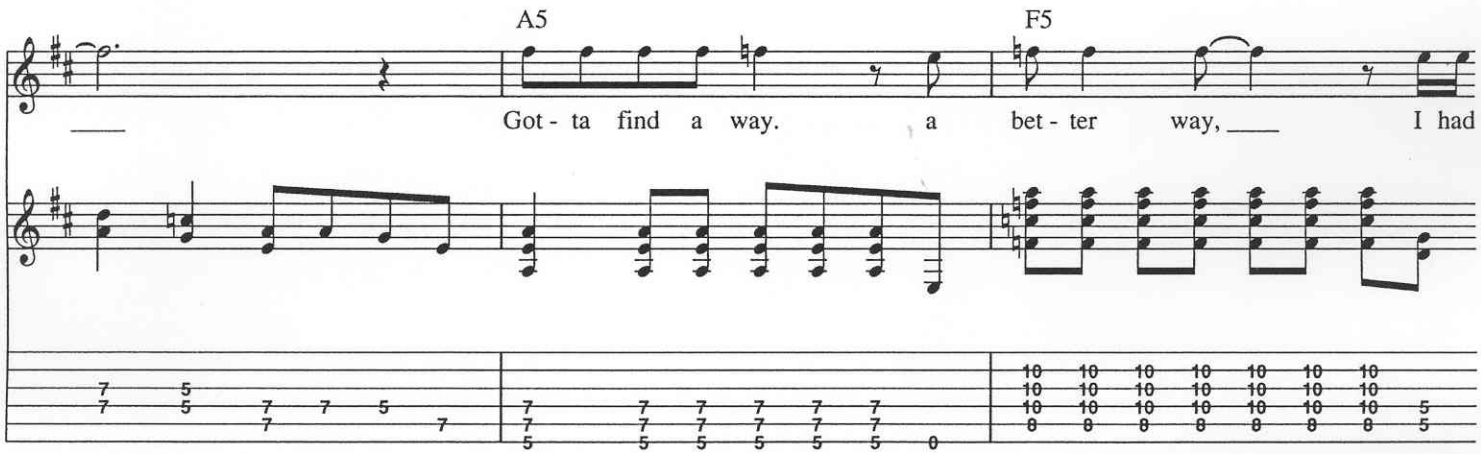

F Chorus
A5 Gtr. 3 (Gtr. 2 repeats Fig. C)
F
D
Got - ta find a way to find a way ___ when I'm there. _____
mf

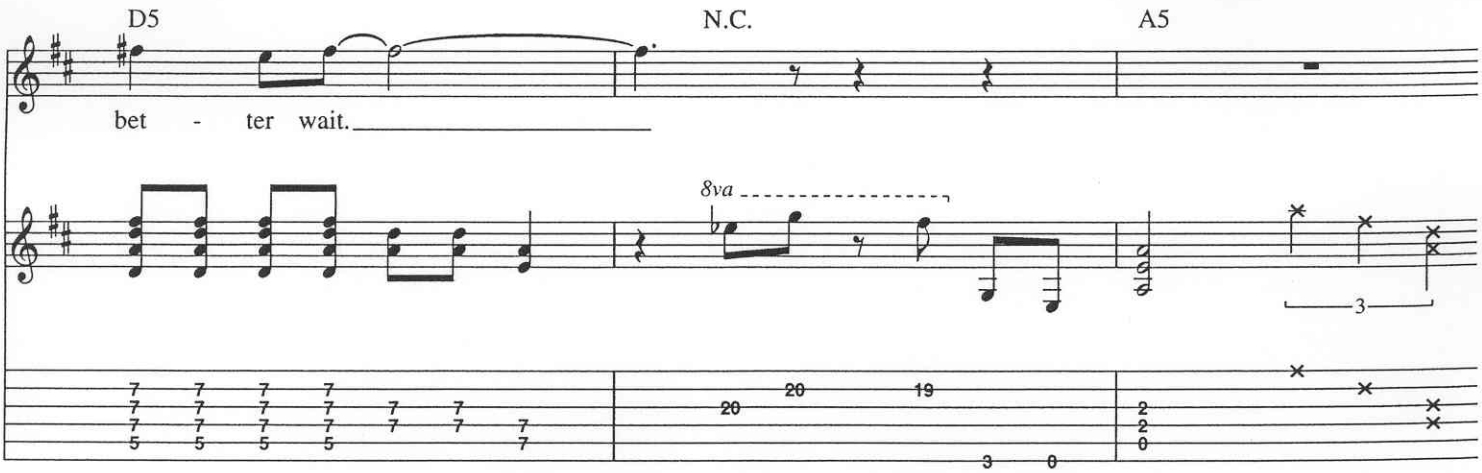

A5
F
D
Got - ta find a way, a bet- ter way, ___ I had bet - ter wait. _____


A5
F5
D5
C5 A5 A♭5 G5
Got- ta find a way, to find a way ___ when I'm there. _____


A5
F5
D5
E♭5 D5 A5 A♭5 G5
Got - ta find a way, a bet - ter way, ___ I had bet - ter wait. _____


A5
F5
D5
Got - ta find a way, a bet - ter way, ____ scream: When I'm there. ____


A5
F5
____ Got - ta find a way. a bet - ter way, ____ I had


D5
N.C.
A5
bet - ter wait. ____
8va
3

Drain You

By Kurt Cobain

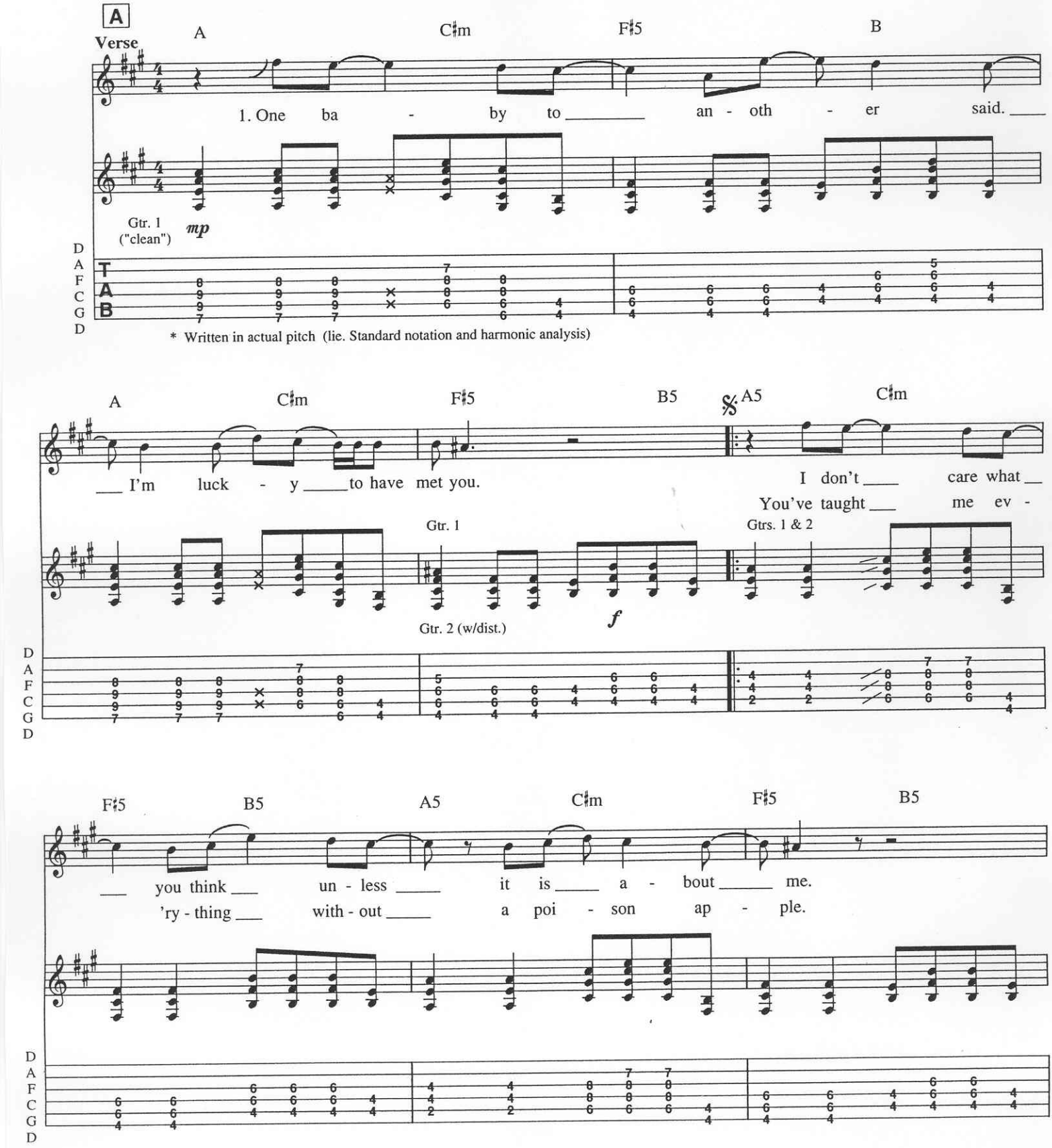
* Tune down one whole step

⑥ = D ⑤ = G

④ = C ③ = F

② = A ① = D

Lively Rock (♩ = 136)



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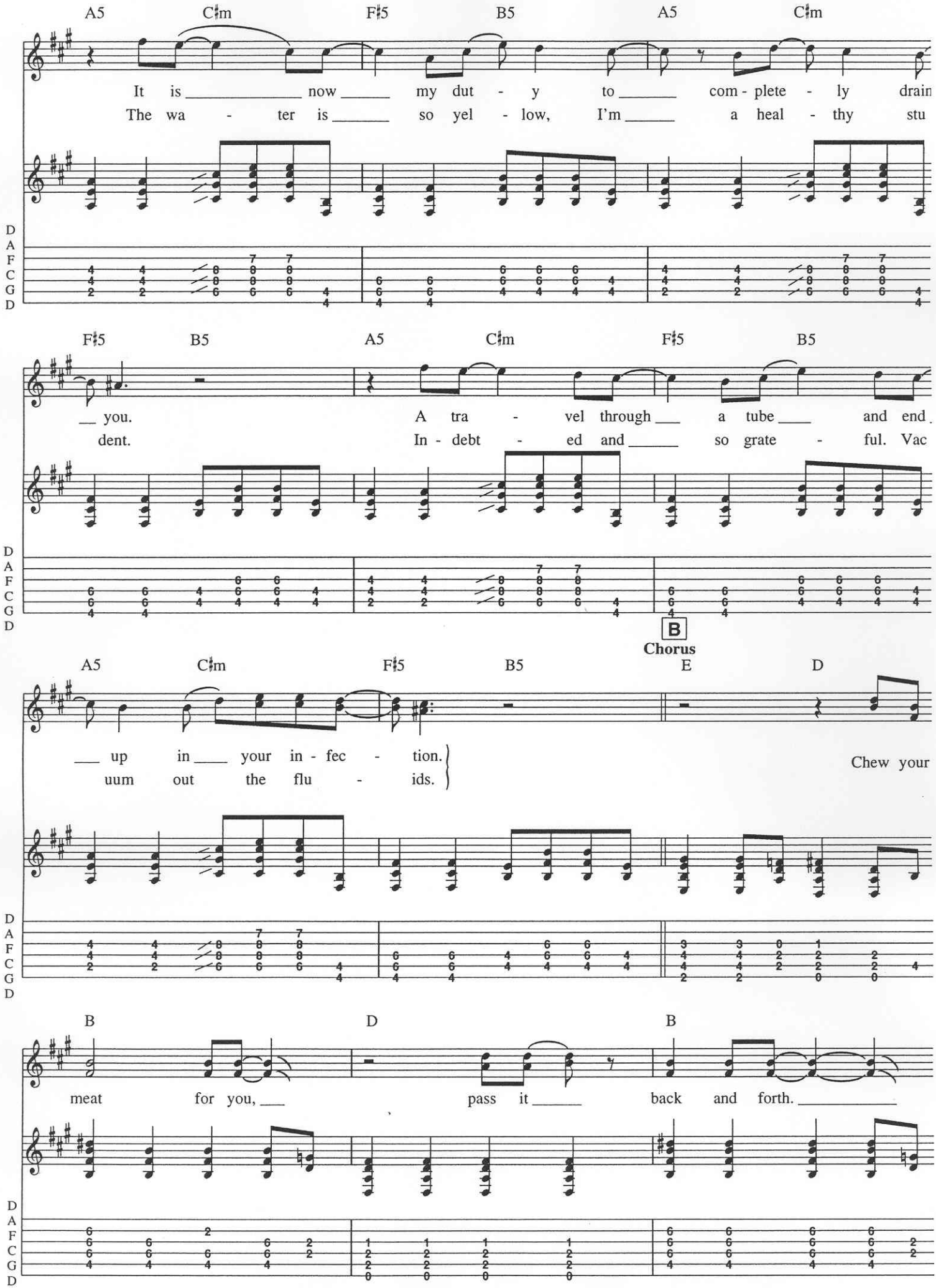
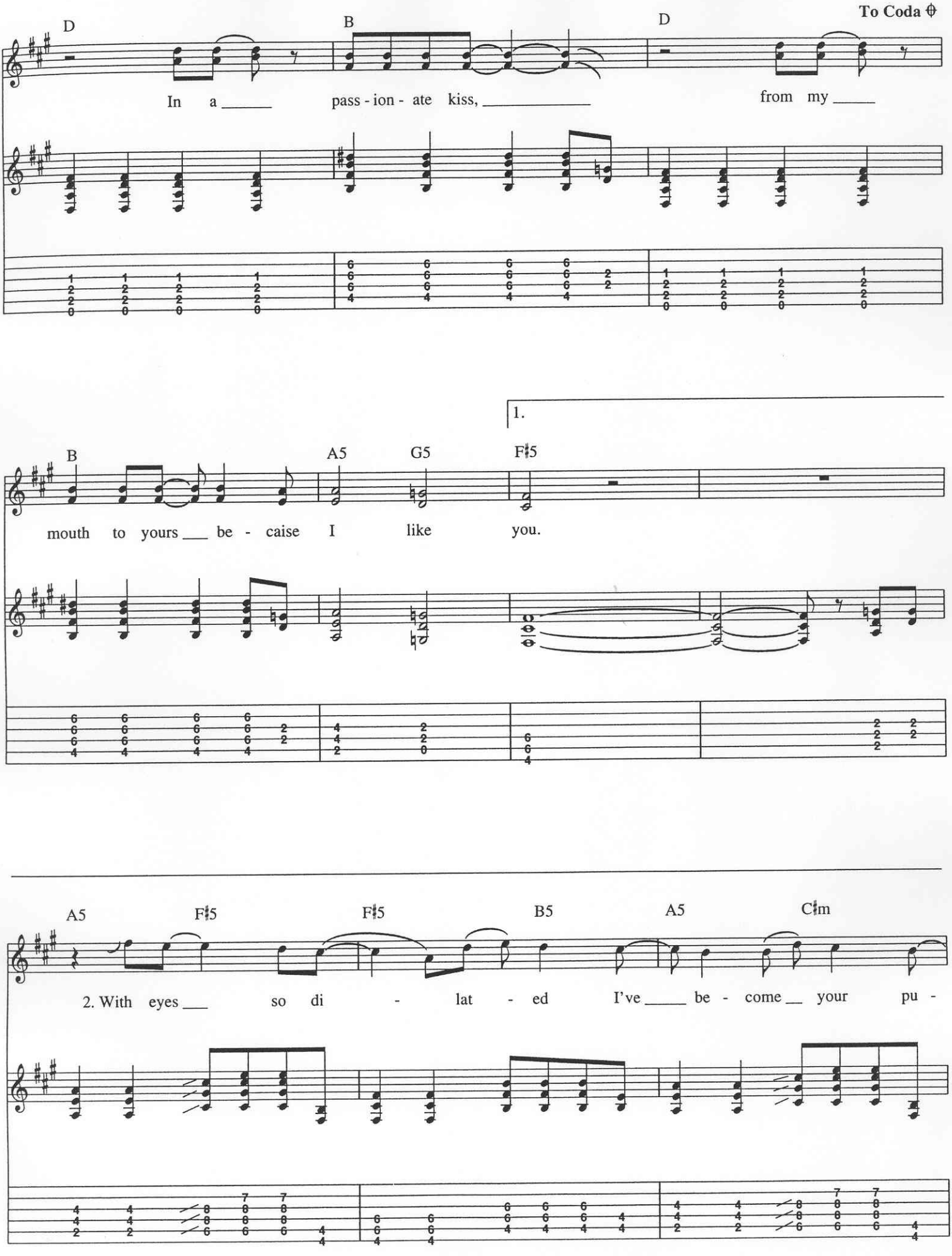
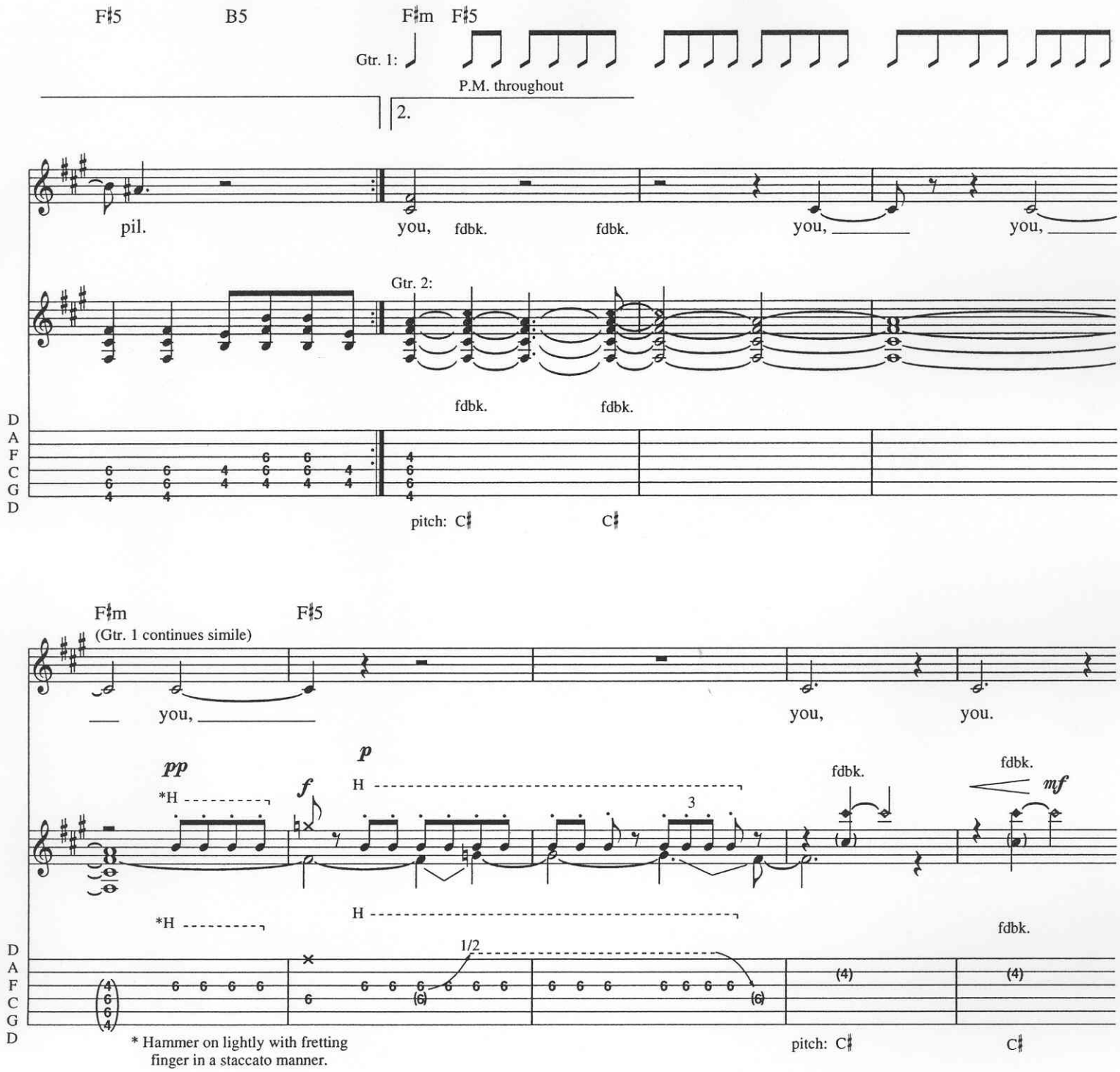
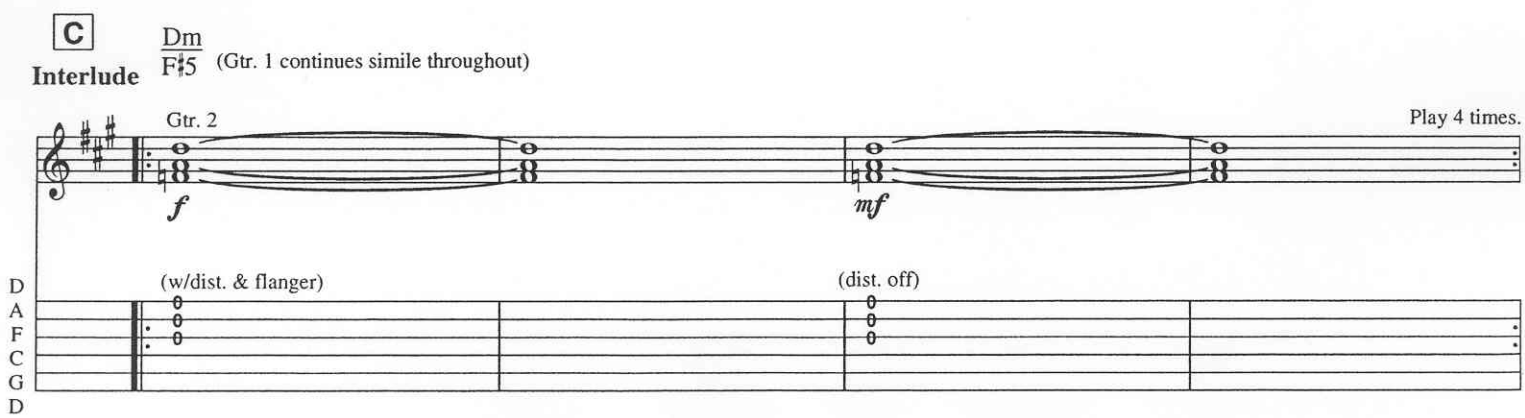
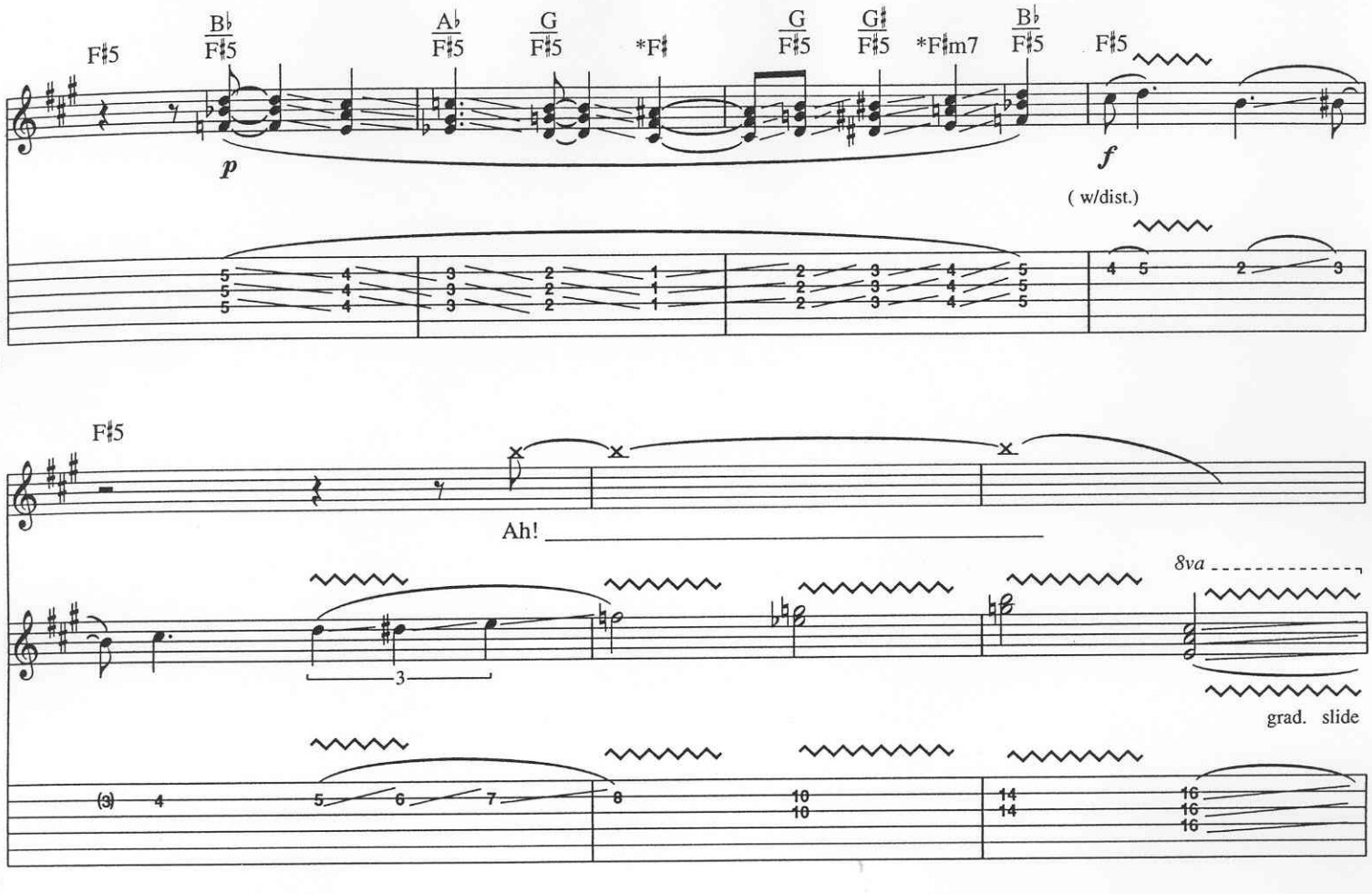

A5 C♯m F♯5 B5 A5 C♯m
It is now my dut - y to com - plete - ly drain
The wa - ter is so yel - low, I'm a heal - thy stu
D A F C G D
F♯5 B5 A5 C♯m F♯5 B5
you. A tra - vel through a tube and end
dent. In - debt - ed and so grate - ful. Vac
D A F C G D
B
Chorus
A5 C♯m F♯5 B5 E D
up in your in - fec - tion.
uum out the flu - ids.
Chew your
D A F C G D
B D B
meat for you, pass it back and forth.
D A F C G D


To Coda
D
B
D
In a pass - ion - ate kiss, from my
1.
B
A5
G5
F♯5
mouth to yours be - caise I like you.
A5
F♯5
F♯5
B5
A5
C♯m
2. With eyes so di - lat - ed I've be - come your pu -


F♯5
B5
F♯m
F♯5
Gtr. 1:
P.M. throughout
2.
pil.
you,
fdbk.
fdbk.
you,
you,
Gtr. 2:
fdbk.
fdbk.
D
A
F
C
G
D
pitch: C♯
C♯
F♯m
F♯5
(Gtr. 1 continues simile)
you,
you,
you.
pp
*H
f
p
H
3
fdbk.
fdbk.
mf
*H
H
1/2
fdbk.
(4)
(4)
pitch: C♯
C♯
* Hammer on lightly with fretting finger in a staccato manner.

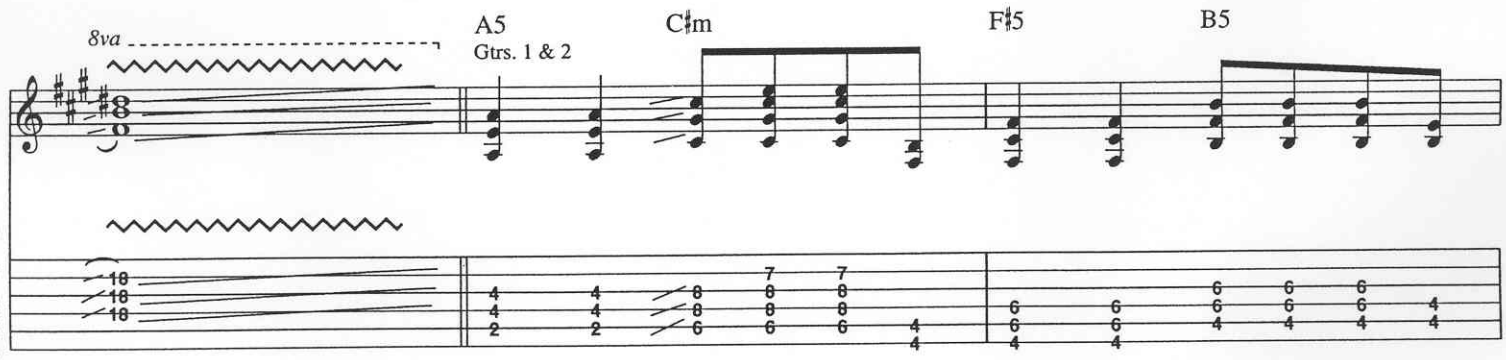

C
Interlude
Dm
F♯5
(Gtr. 1 continues simile throughout)
Gtr. 2
Play 4 times.
f
mf
(w/dist. & flanger)
(dist. off)
D
A
F
C
G
D

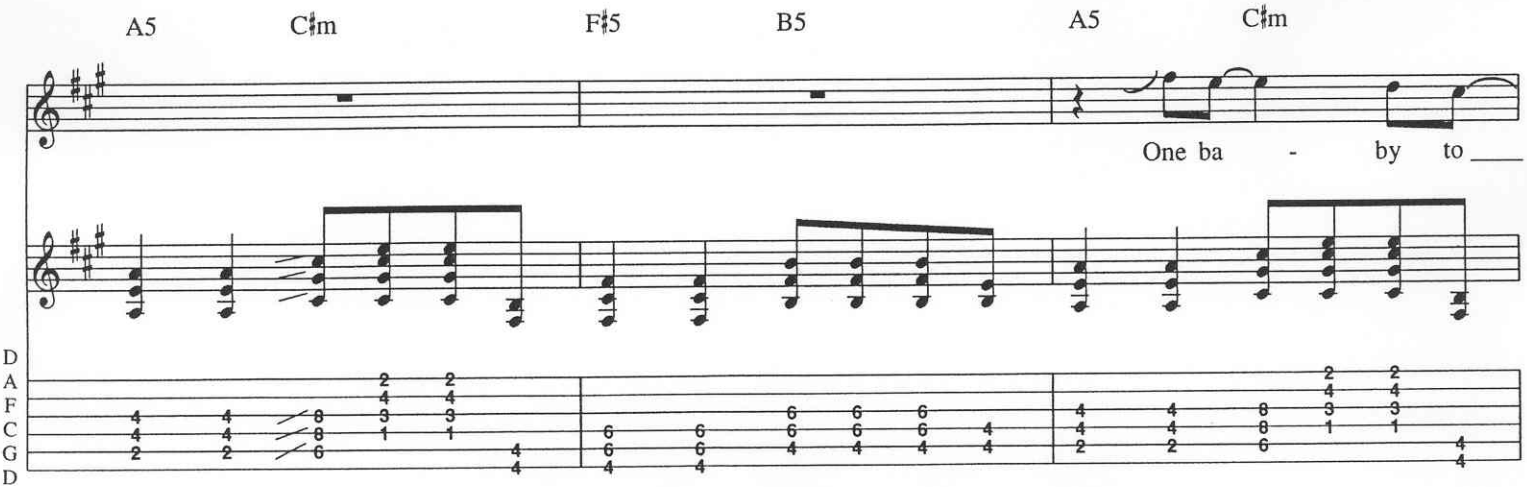

F♯5
B♭/F♯5
A♭/F♯5
G/F♯5
*F♯
G/F♯5
G♯/F♯5
*F♯m7
B♭/F♯5
F♯5
p
f
(w/dist.)
D A F C G D

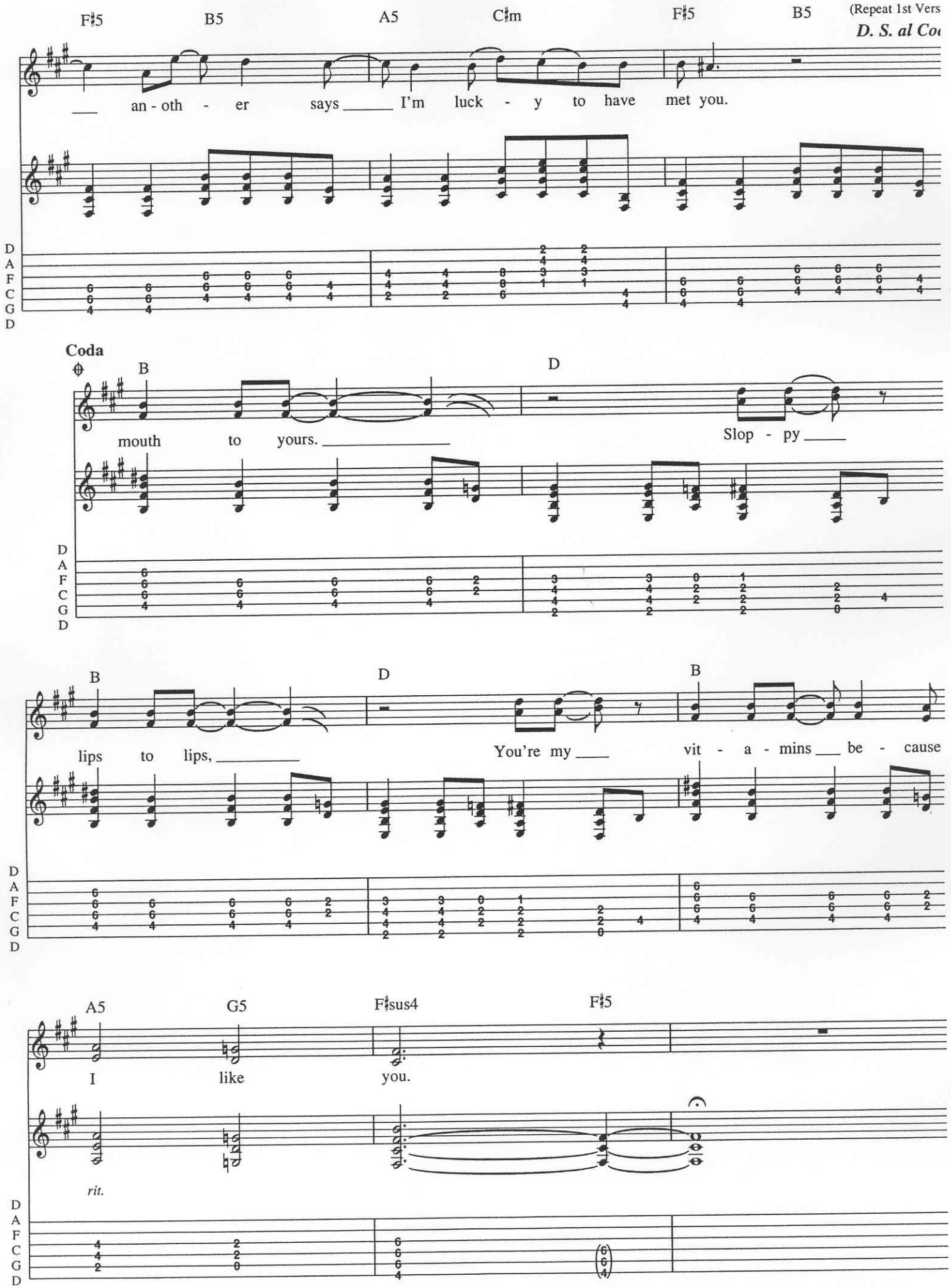
F♯5
Ah!
8va
grad. slide
D A F C G D

D

Verse


8va
A5
Gtrs. 1 & 2
C♯m
F♯5
B5
D A F C G D


A5
C♯m
F♯5
B5
A5
C♯m
One ba - by to
D A F C G D


F♯5 B5 A5 C♯m F♯5 B5
(Repeat 1st Vers
D. S. al Co
an - oth - er says I'm luck - y to have met you.
D A F C G D
Coda
B D
mouth to yours. Slop - py
B D B
lips to lips, You're my vit - a - mins be - cause
A5 G5 F♯sus4 F♯5
I like you.
rit.

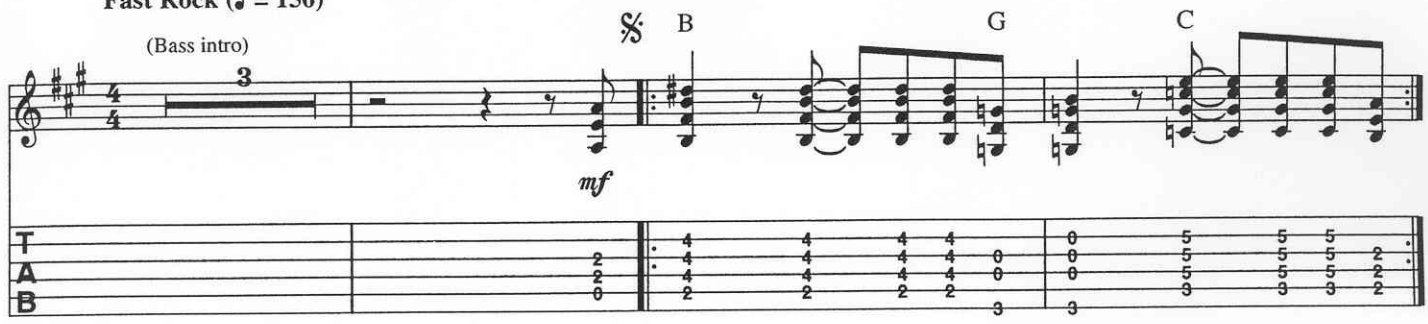
Lounge Act

By Kurt Cobain

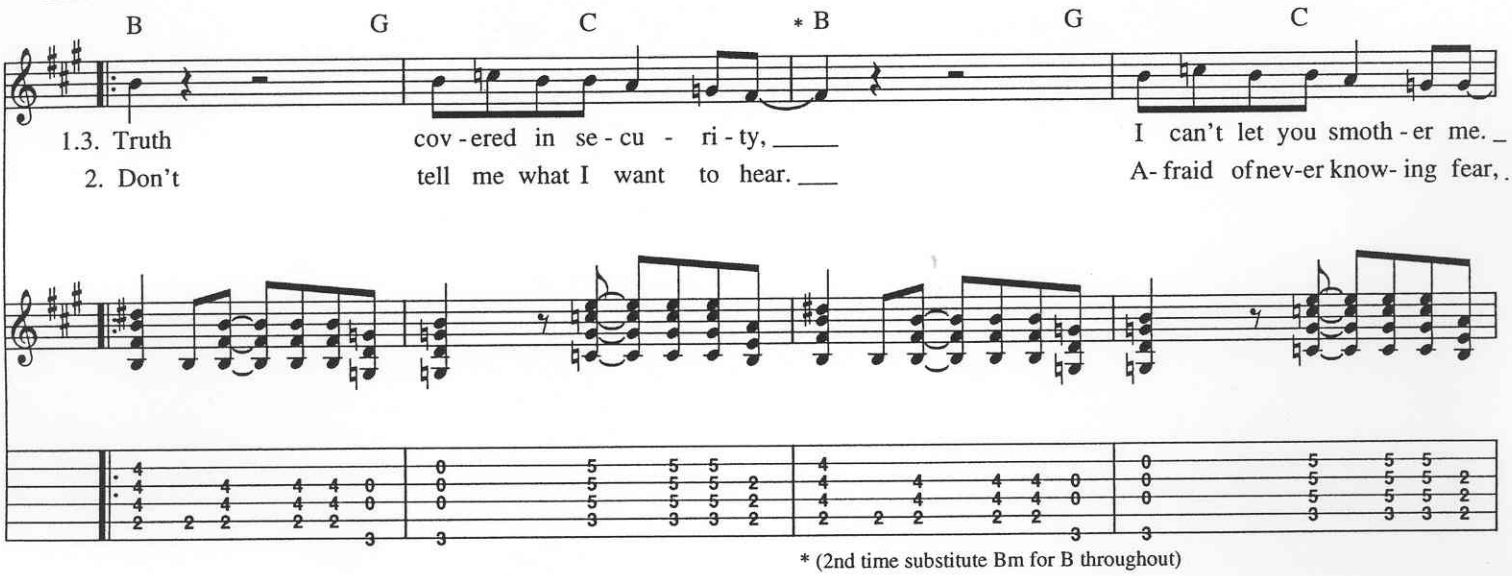
A Intro

Fast Rock (♩ = 156)

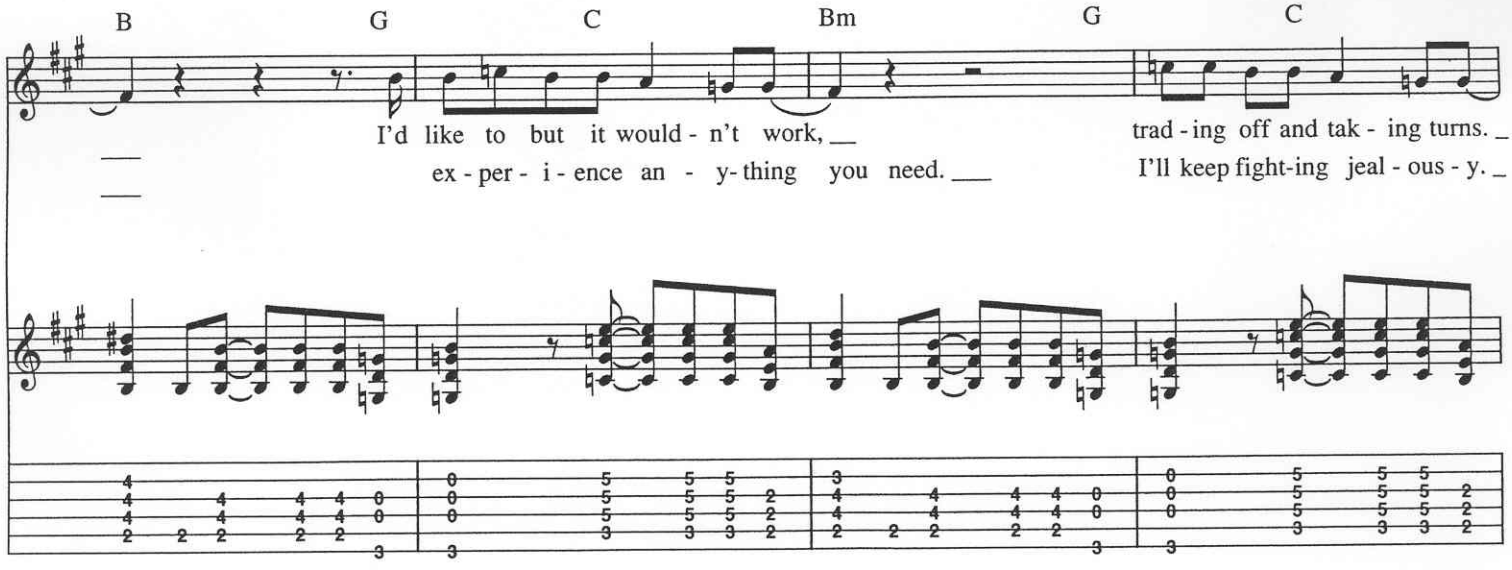
(Bass intro)



B Verse



* (2nd time substitute Bm for B throughout)



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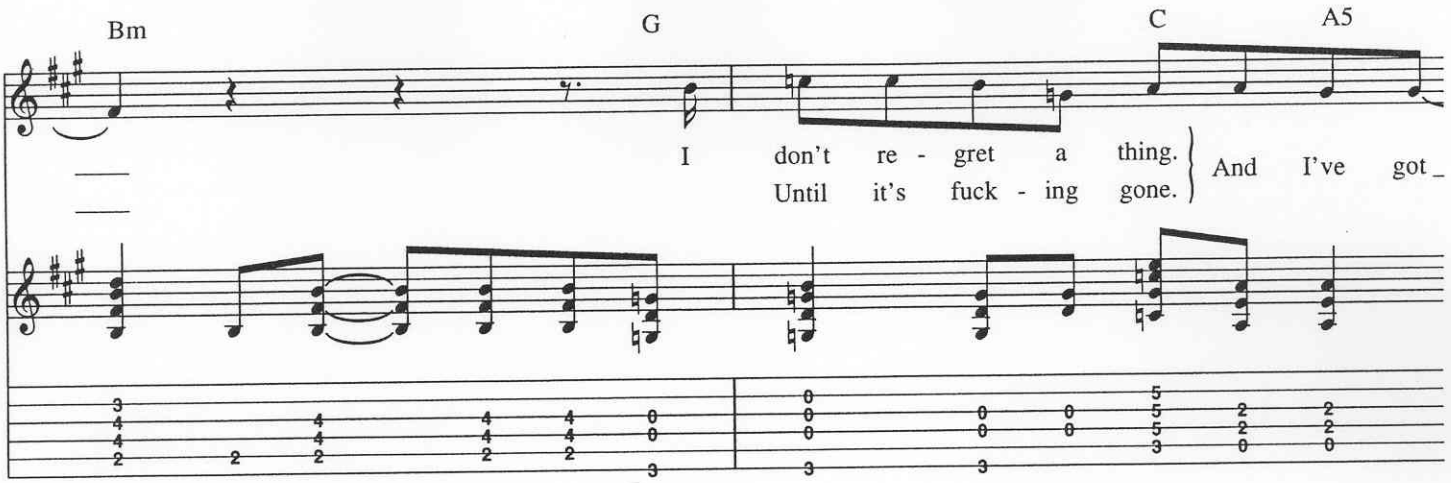
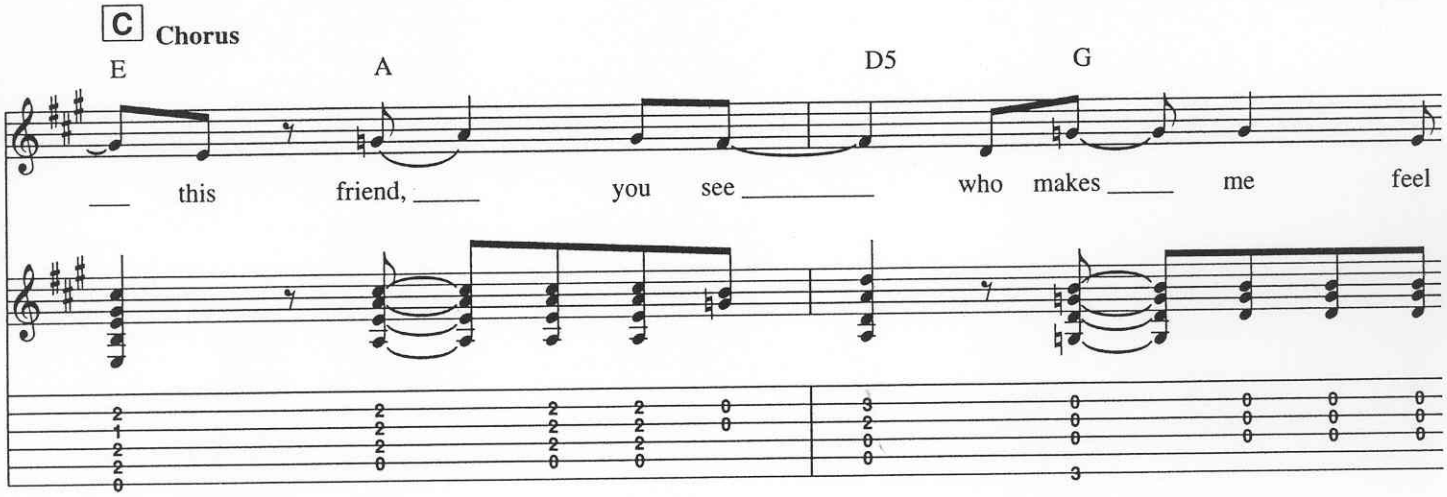
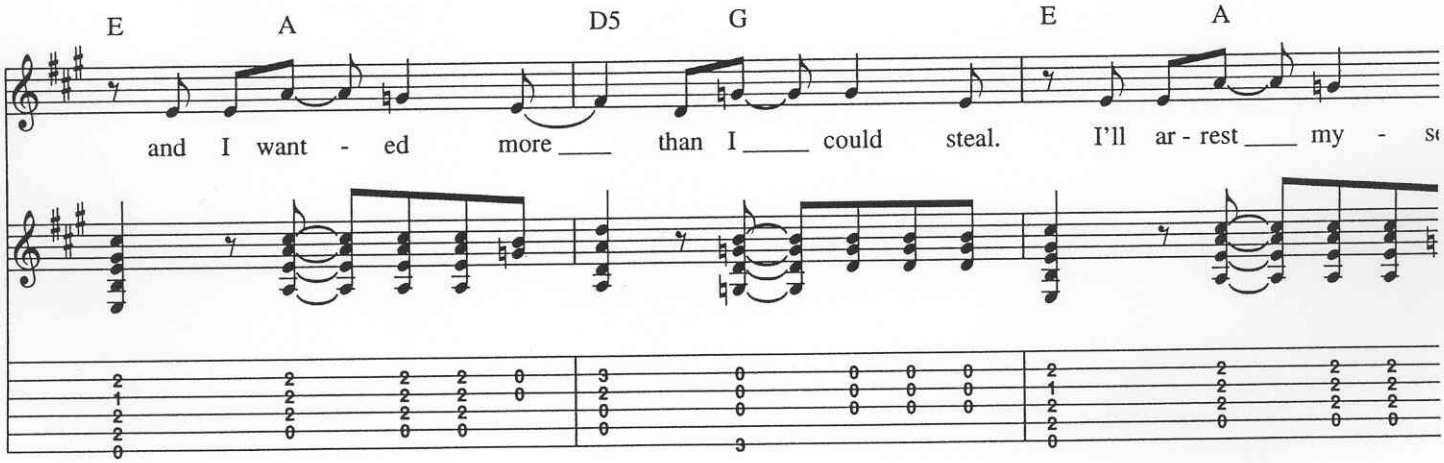
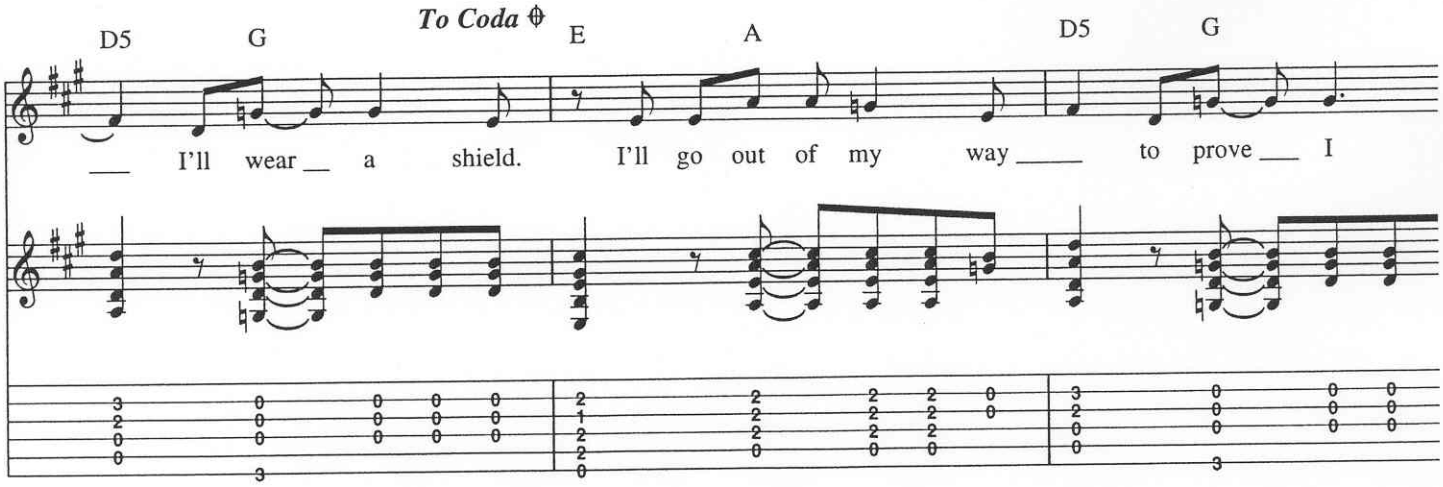
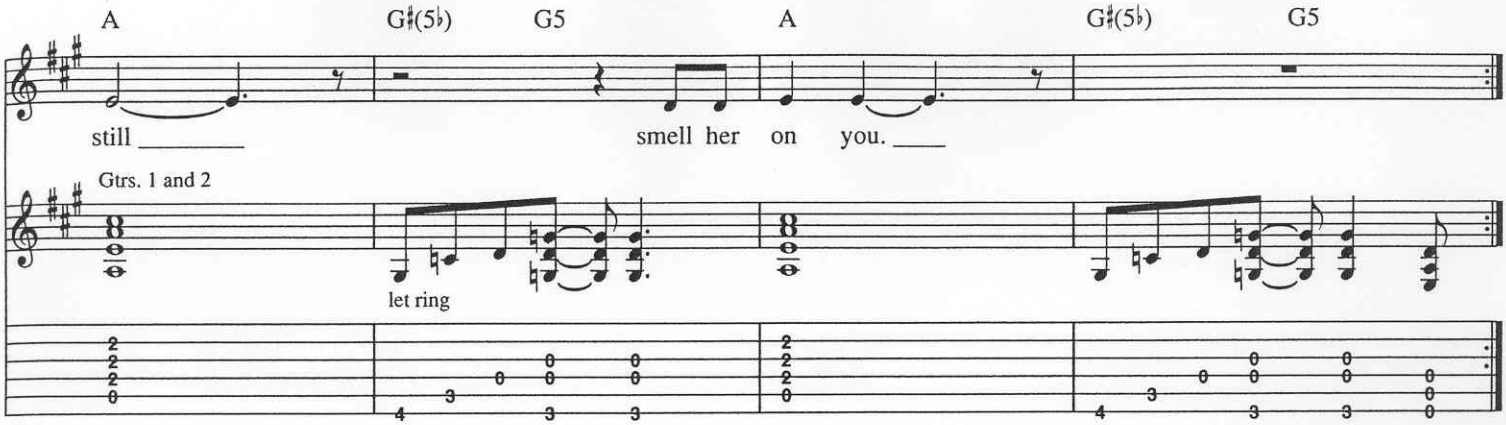

Bm
G
C
A5
I don't re - gret a thing.
Until it's fuck - ing gone.
And I've got

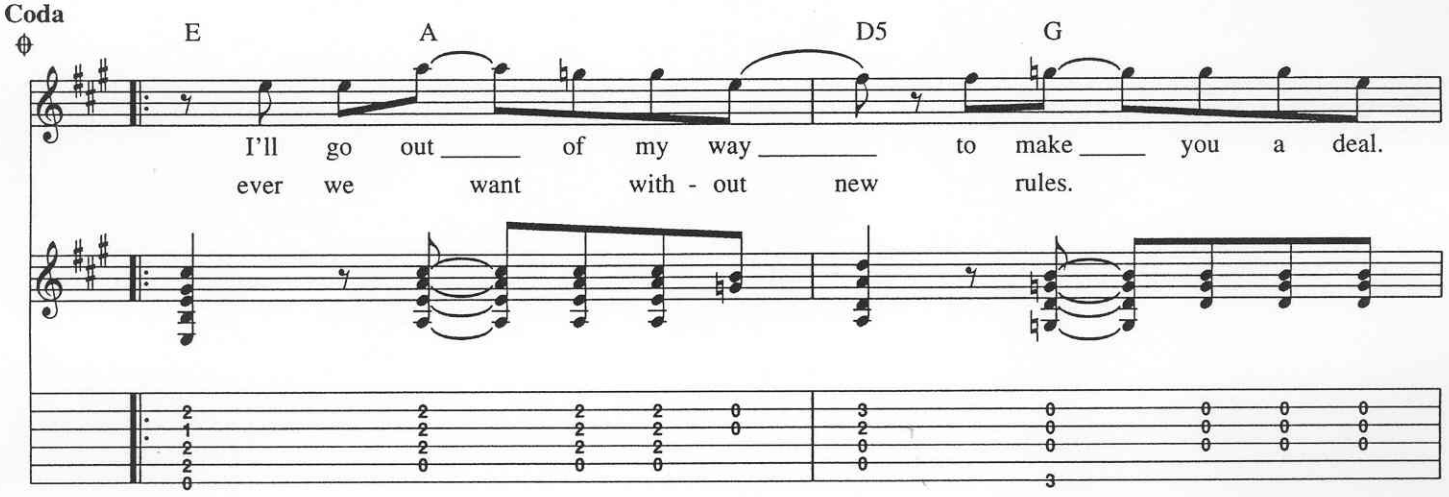

C Chorus
E
A
D5
G
this friend, you see who makes me feel

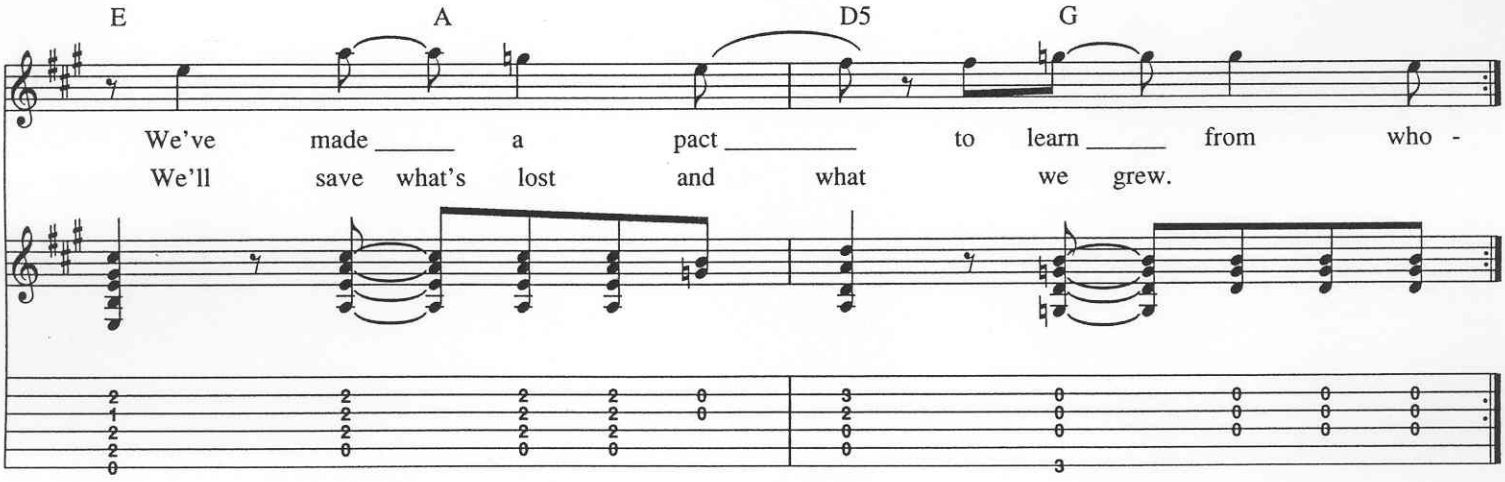

E
A
D5
G
E
A
and I want - ed more than I could steal.
I'll ar - rest my - s

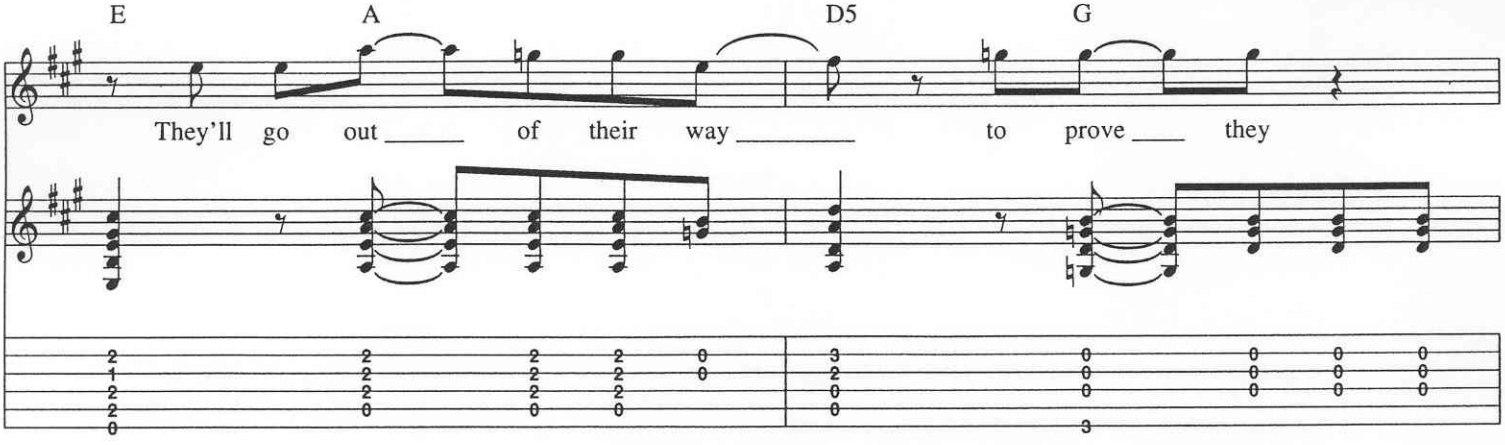

D5
G
To Coda
E
A
D5
G
I'll wear a shield.
I'll go out of my way to prove I

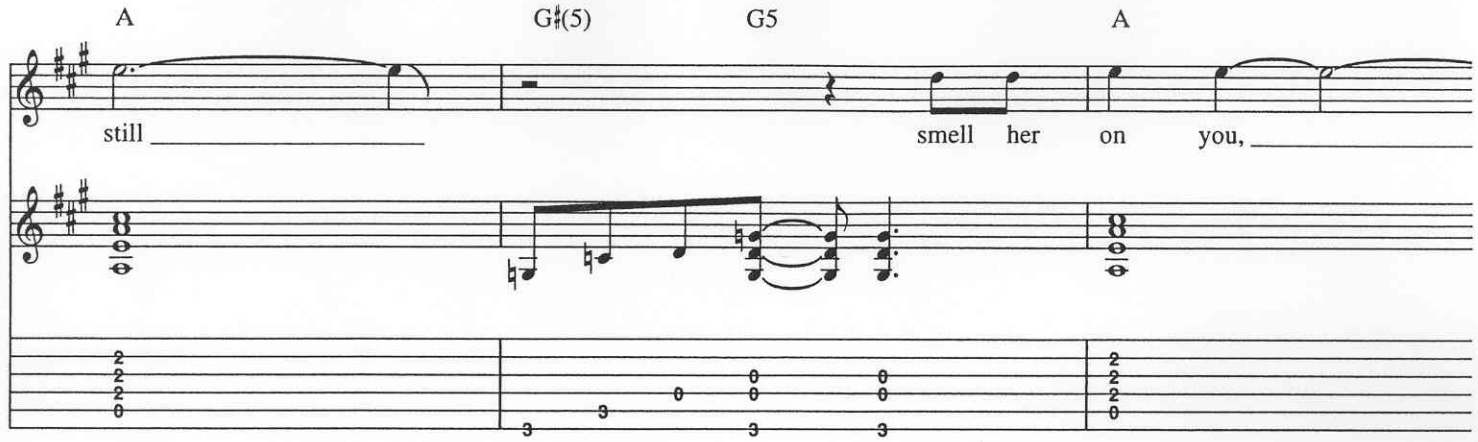
2nd time D.S. al Coda
(repeat 1st verse 8va)

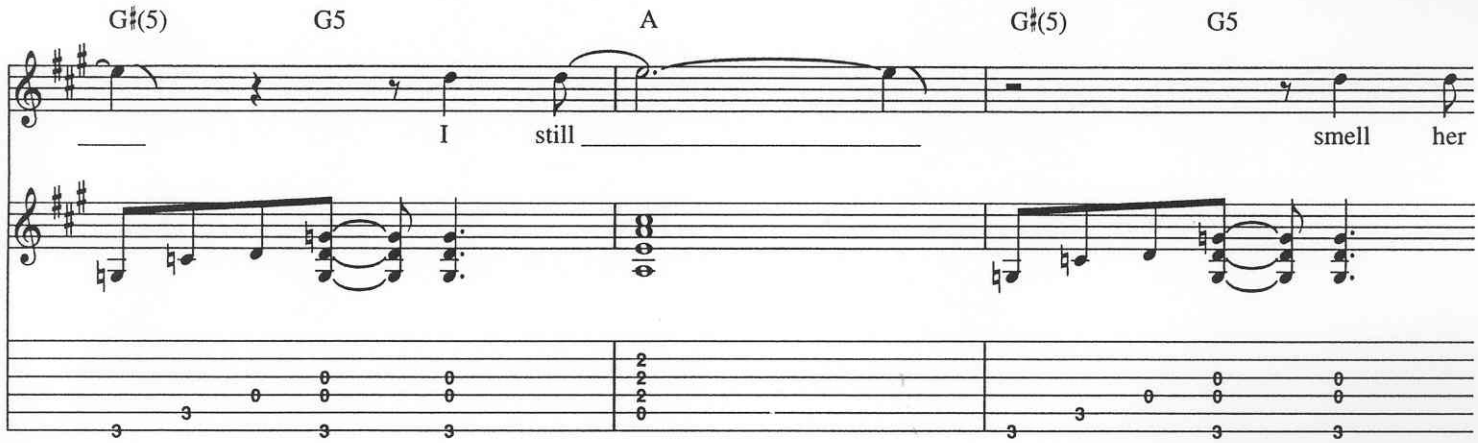


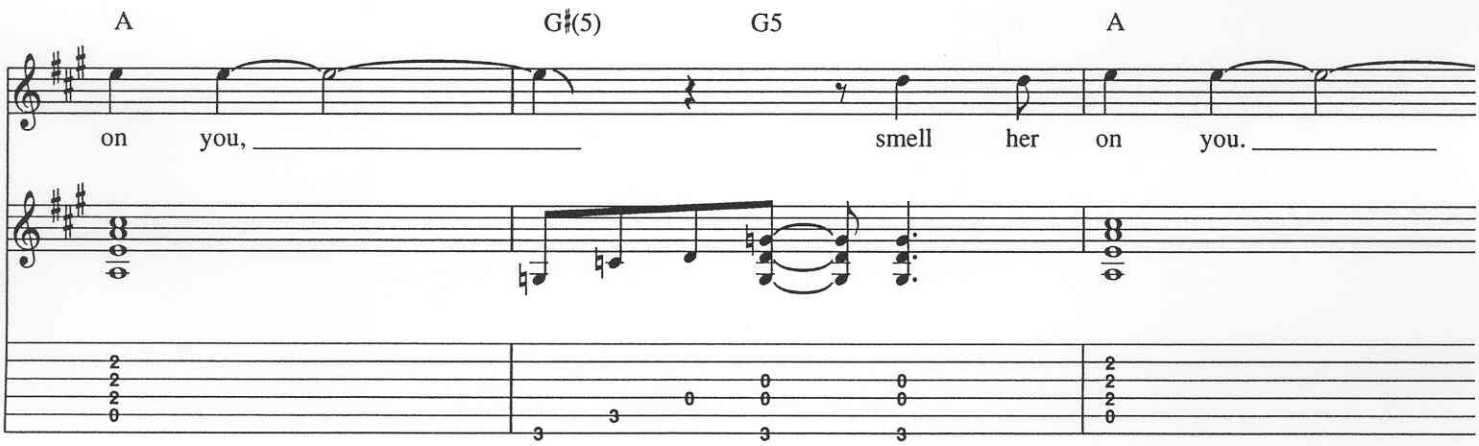


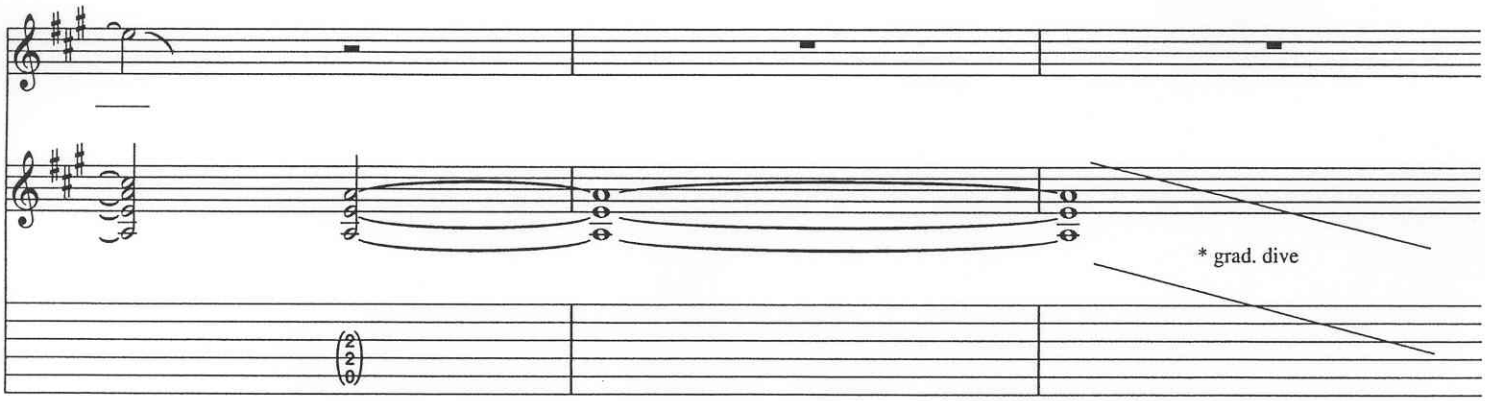








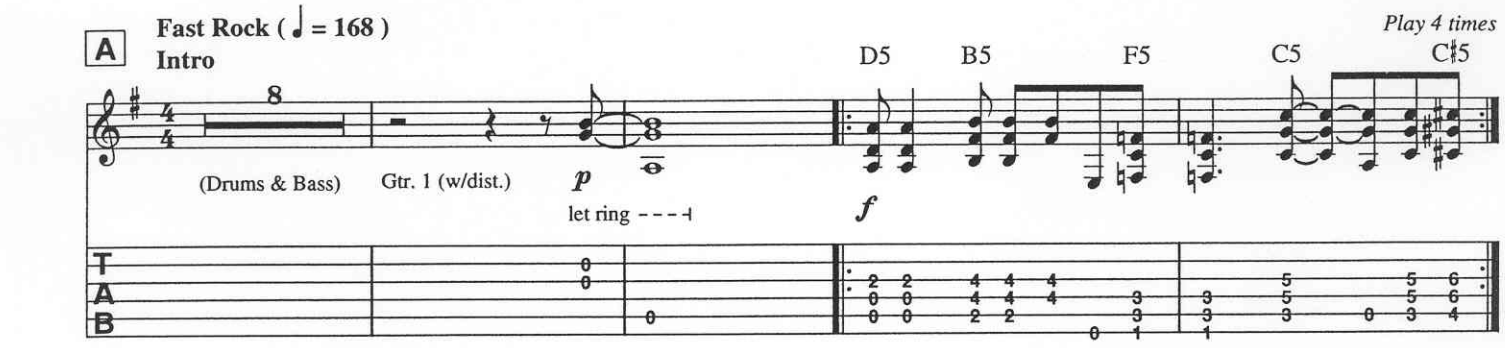


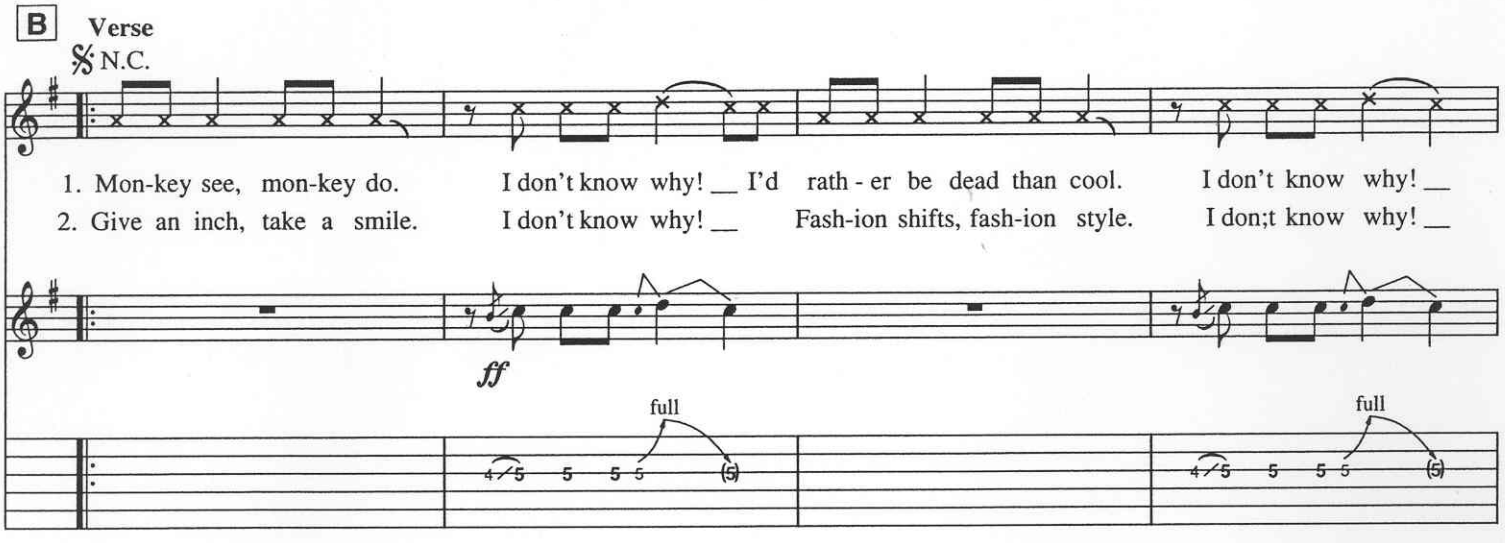


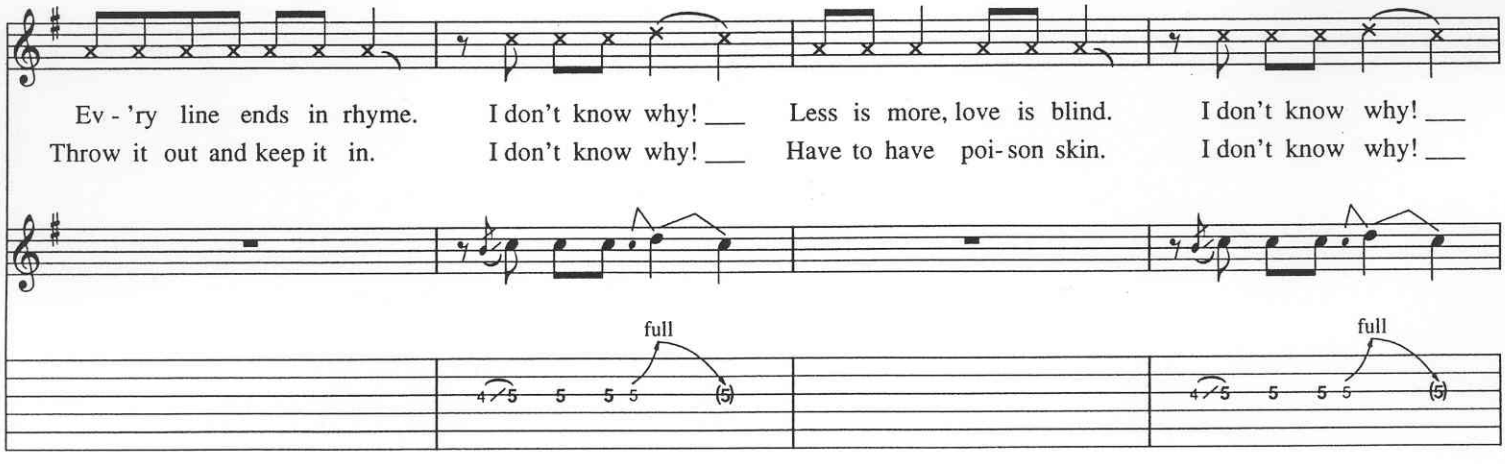
* Pitch shift created

Stay Away

By Kurt Cobain







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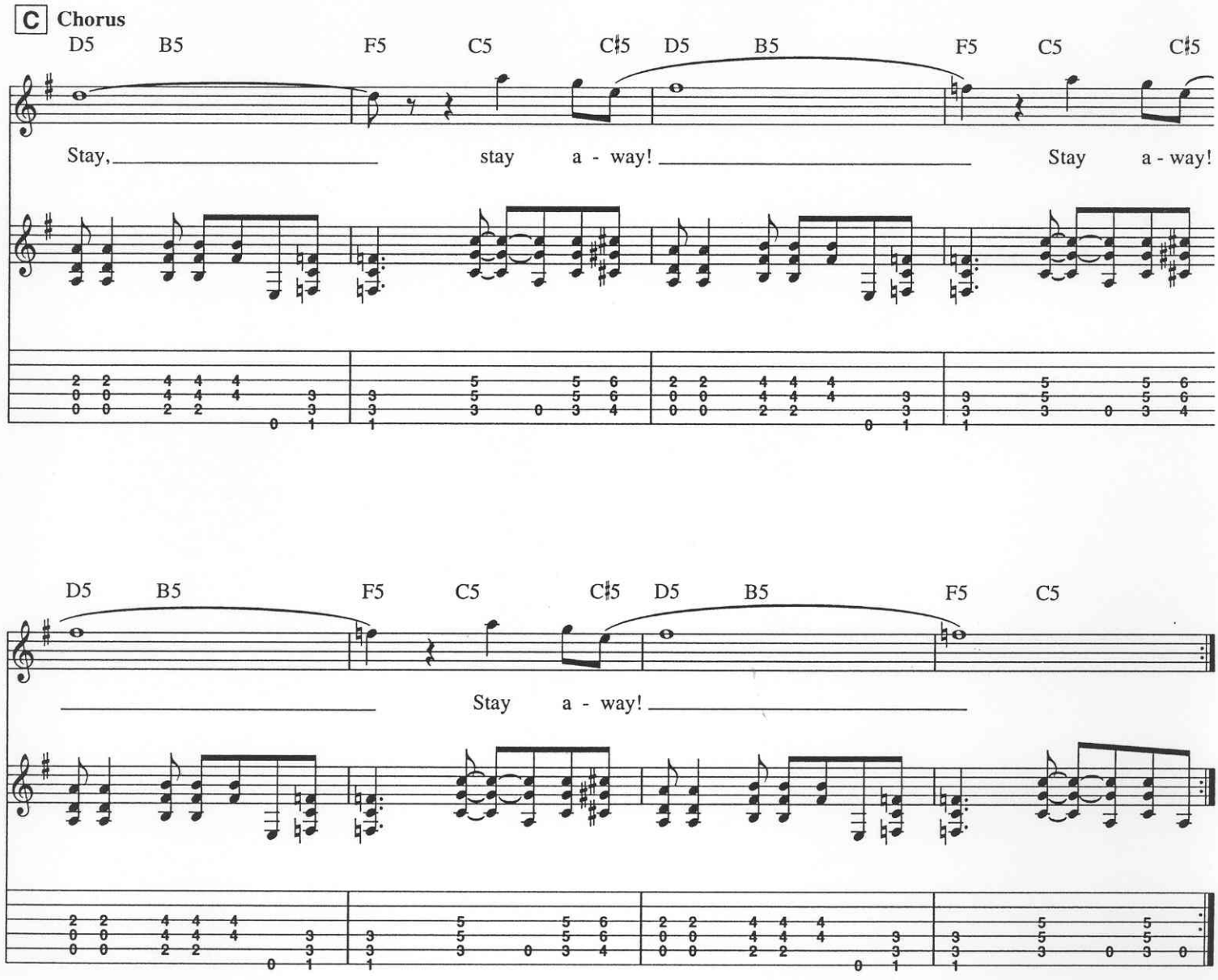
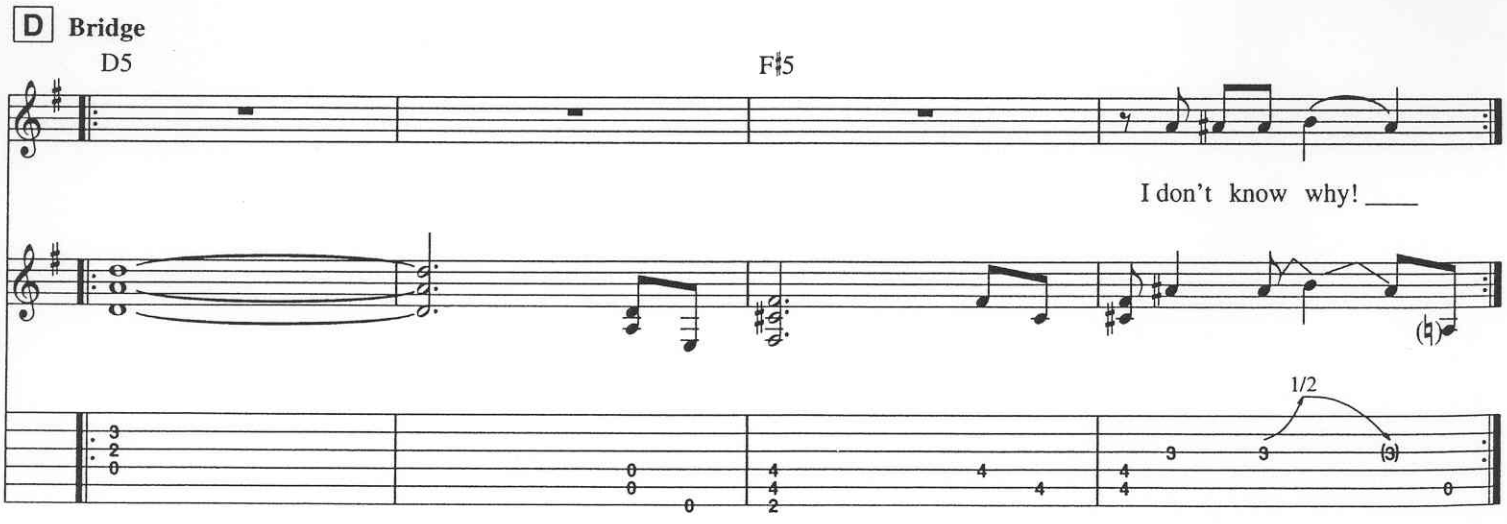
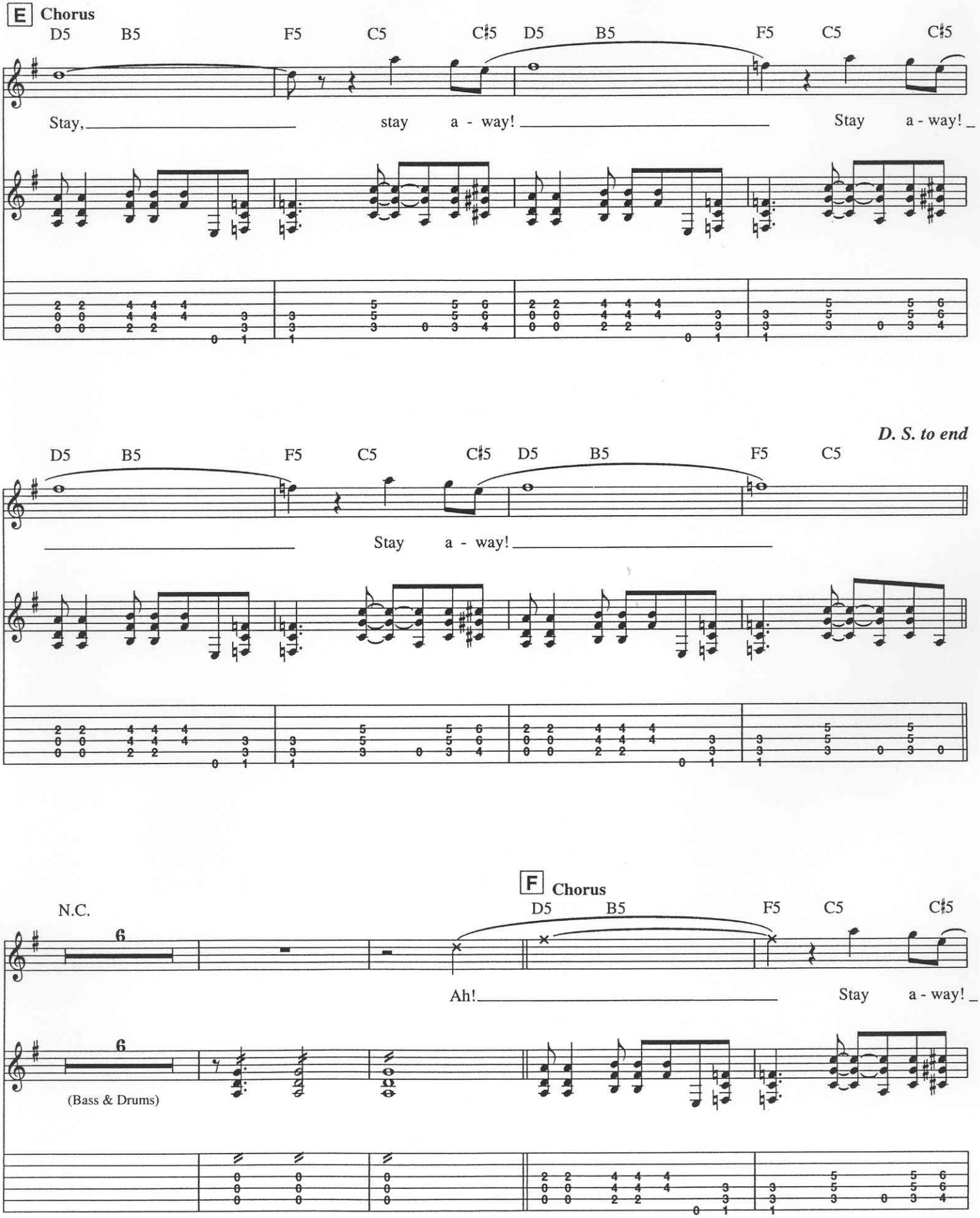
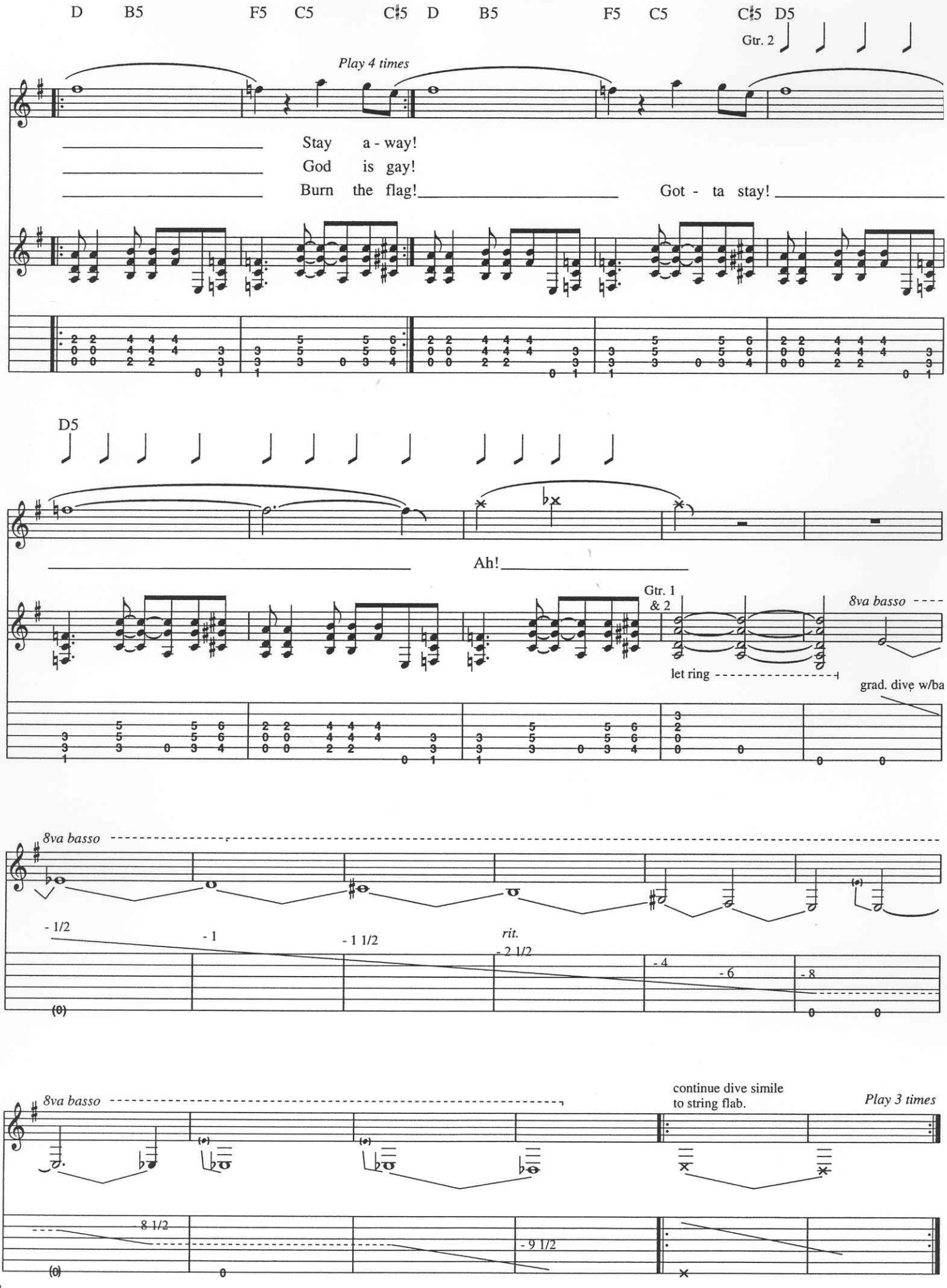

C Chorus
D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5
Stay, stay a - way! Stay a - way!

D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D5 B5 F5 C5
Stay a - way!

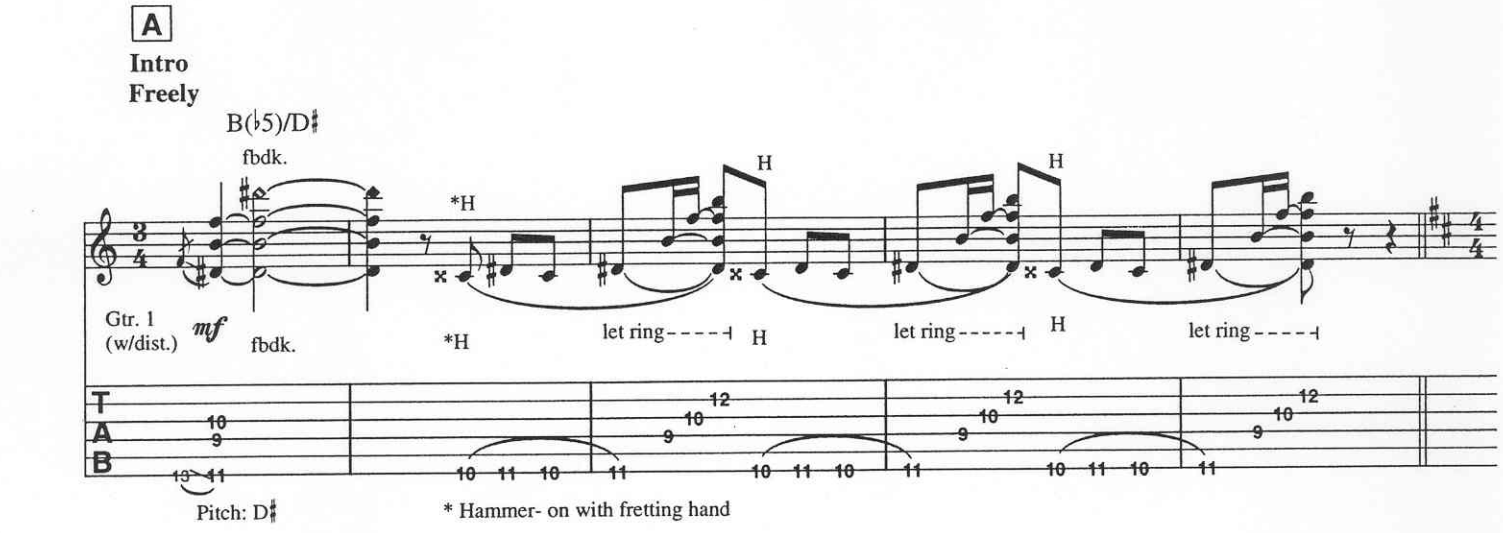

D Bridge
D5 F♯5
I don't know why!
1/2

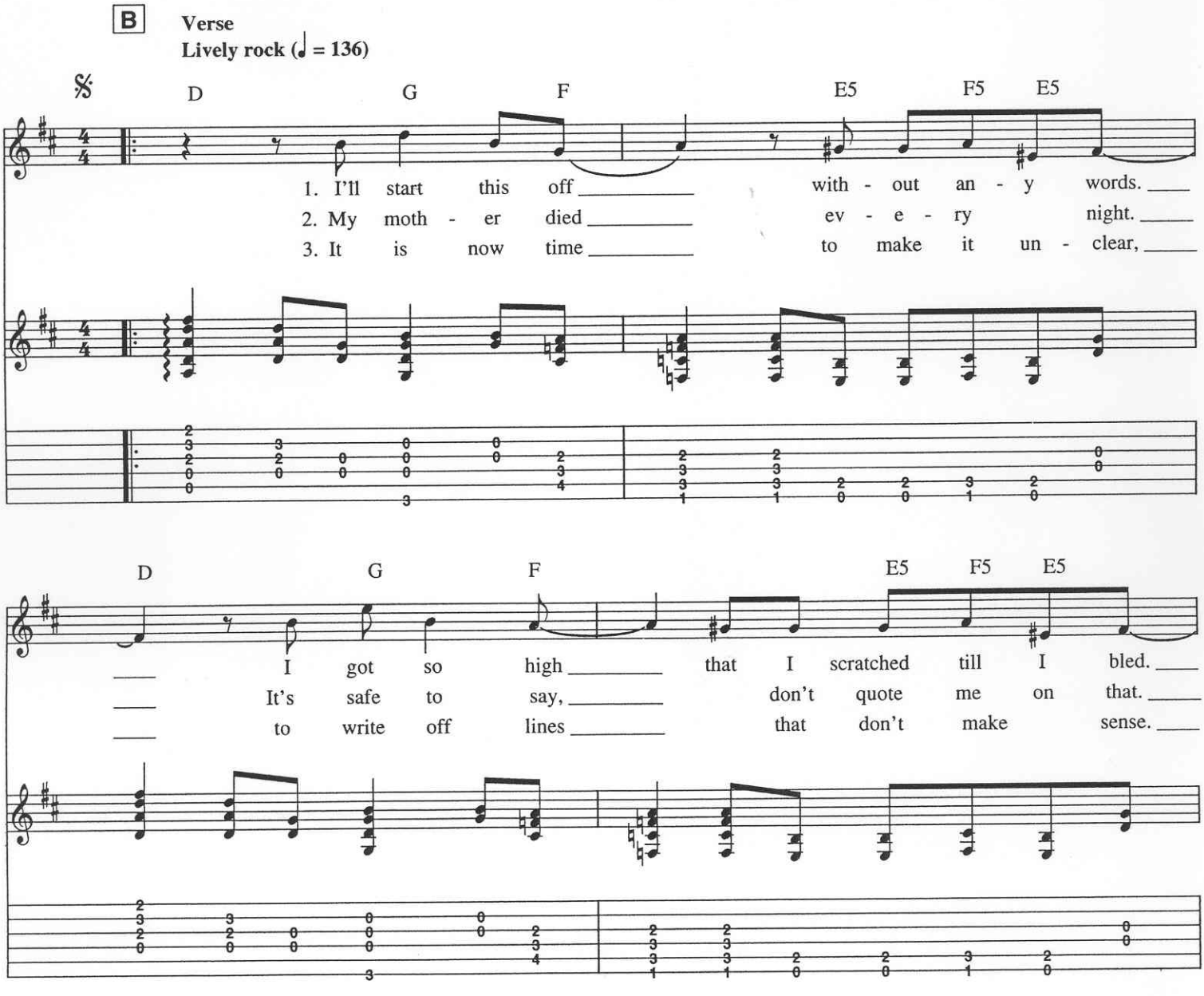

E Chorus
D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5
Stay, stay a - way! Stay a - way!
D. S. to end
D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D5 B5 F5 C5
Stay a - way!
F Chorus
N.C. D5 B5 F5 C5 C♯5
6
Ah! Stay a - way!
(Bass & Drums)


D B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D B5 F5 C5 C♯5 D5
Gtr. 2
Play 4 times
Stay a - way!
God is gay!
Burn the flag!
Got - ta stay!
D5
Ah!
Gtr. 1 & 2
8va basso
let ring
grad. dive w/ba
8va basso
- 1/2
- 1
- 1 1/2
rit.
- 2 1/2
- 4
- 6
- 8
8va basso
continue dive simile to string flab.
Play 3 times
8 1/2
- 9 1/2

On A Plain

By Kurt Cobain





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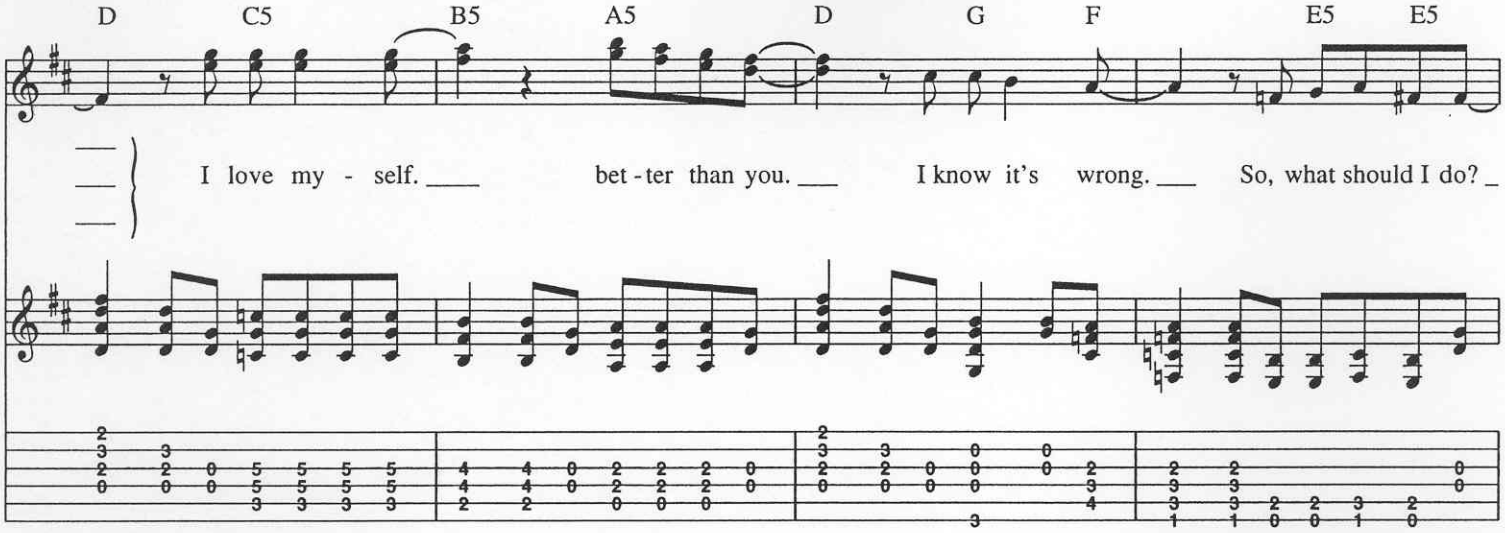
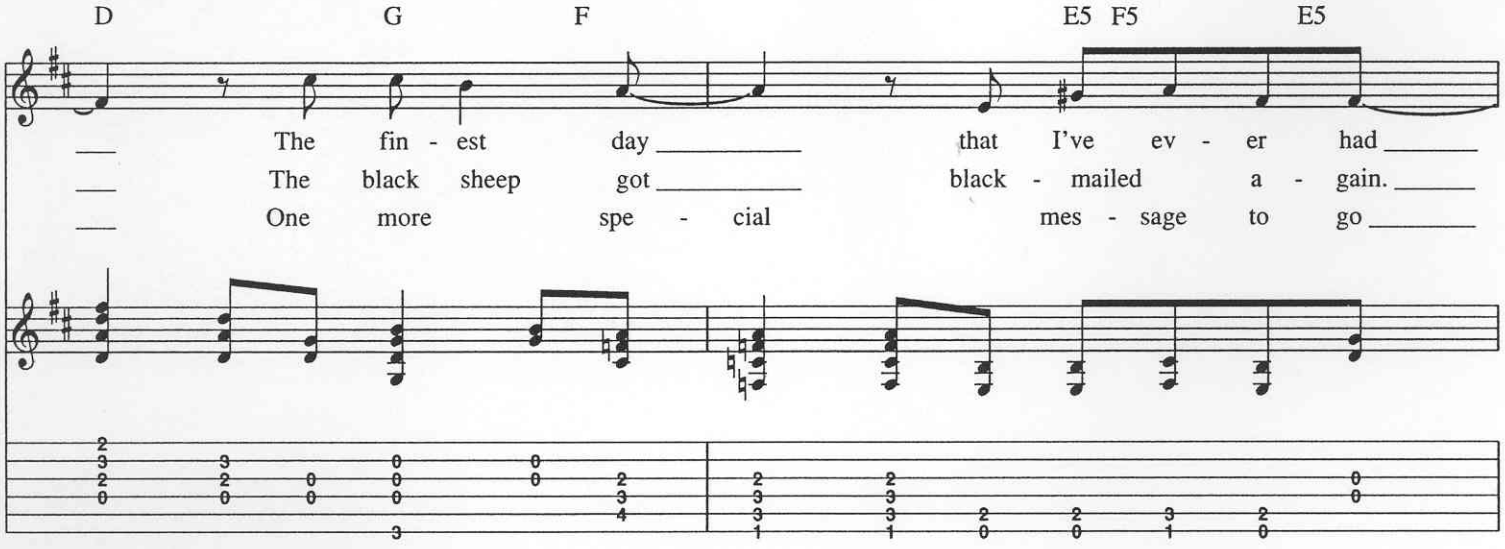
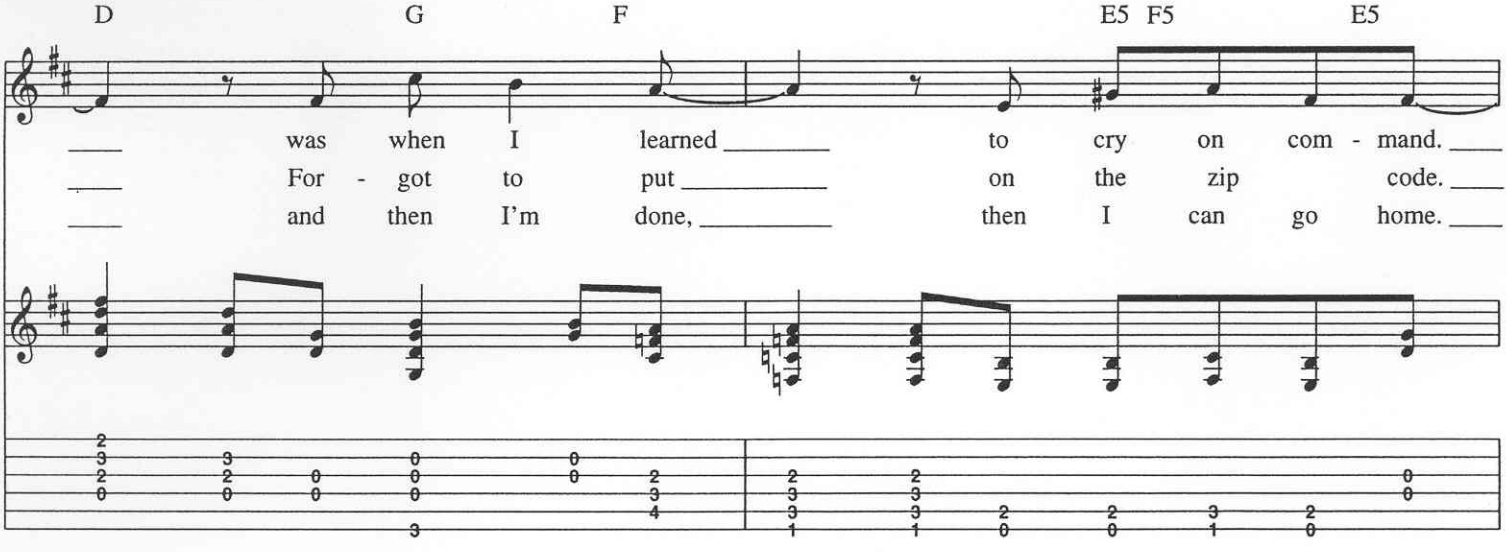
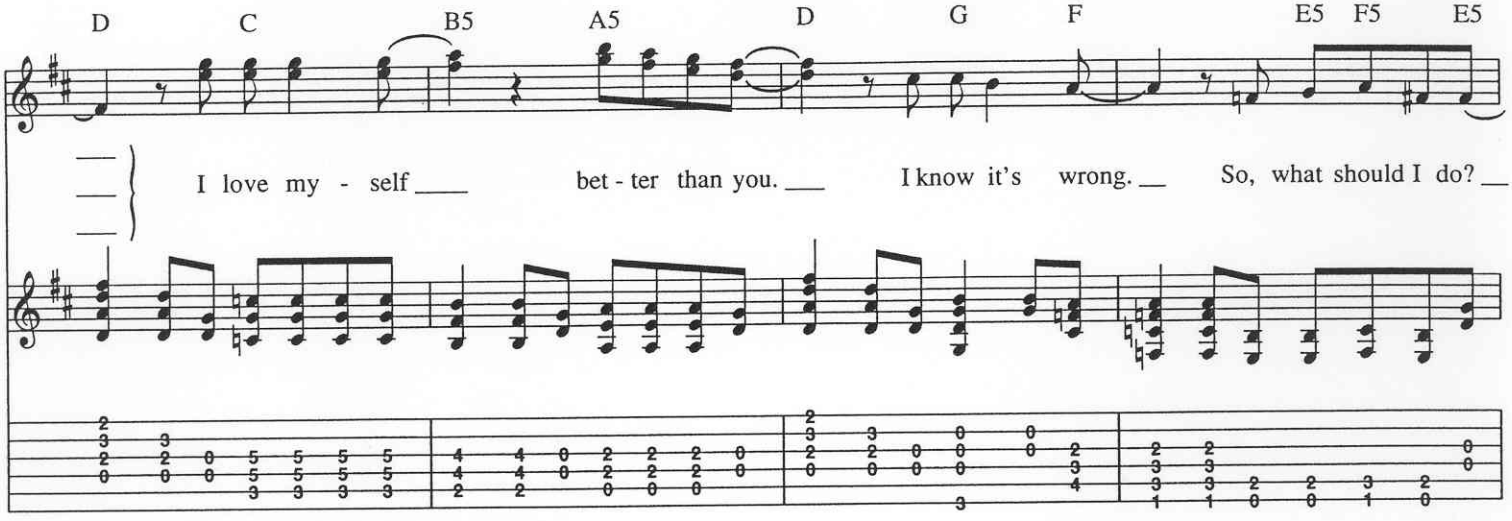
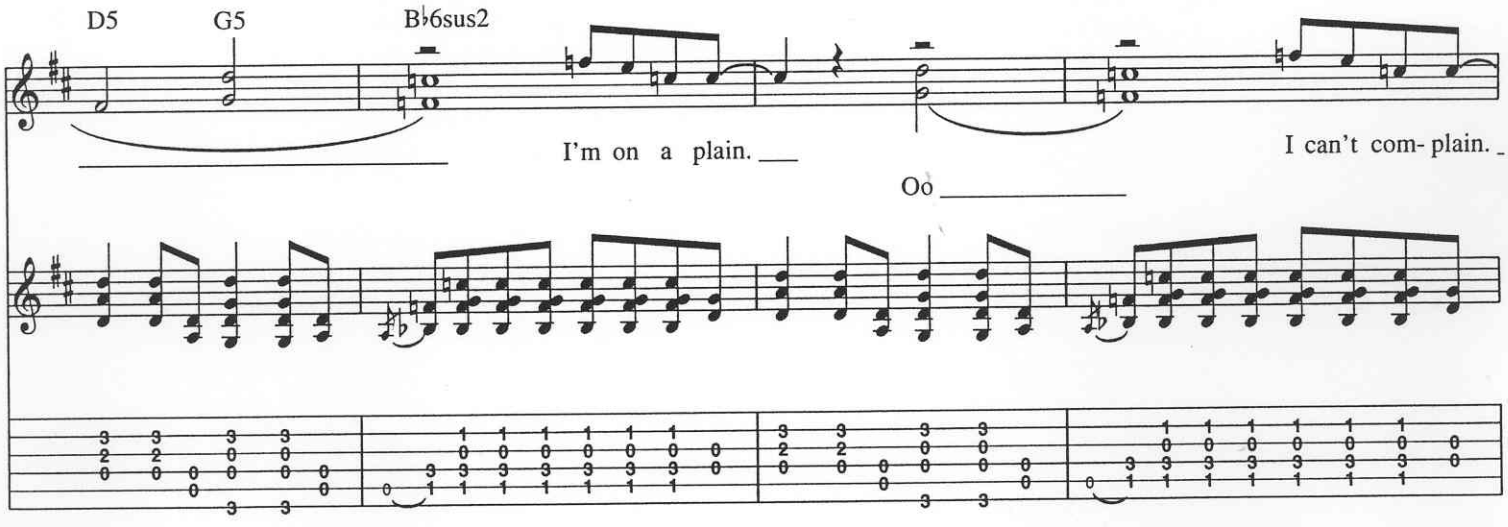

D C5 B5 A5 D G F E5 E5
I love my - self. bet - ter than you. I know it's wrong. So, what should I do?

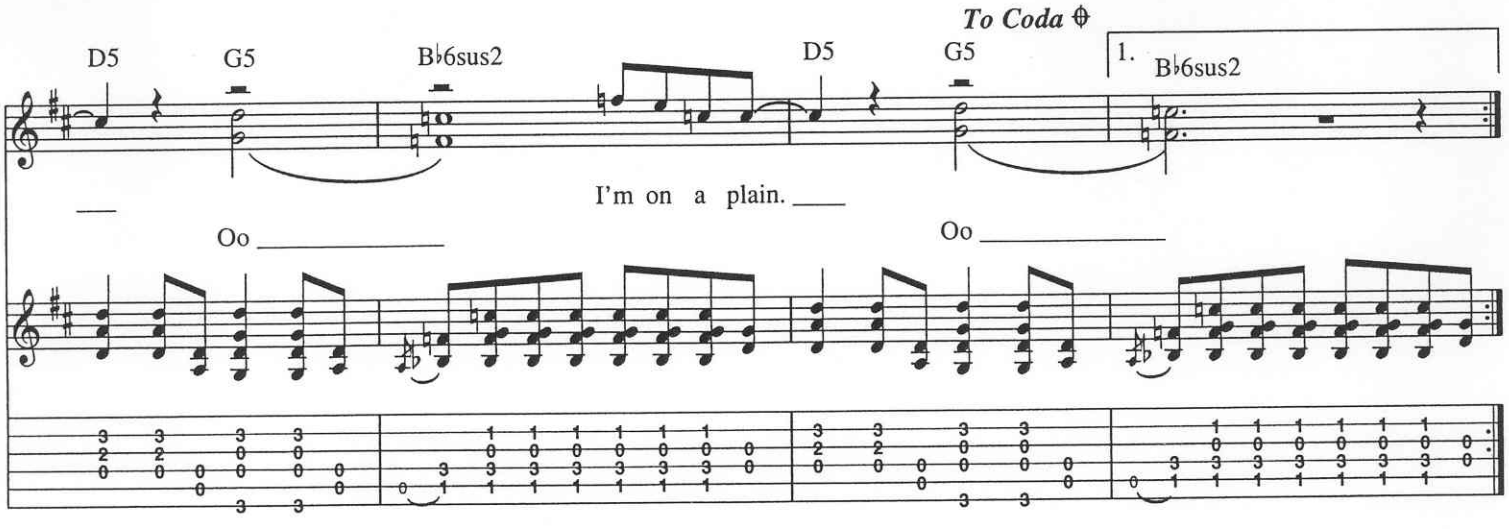

D G F E5 F5 E5
The fin - est day that I've ev - er had
The black sheep got black - mailed a - gain.
One more spe - cial mes - sage to go

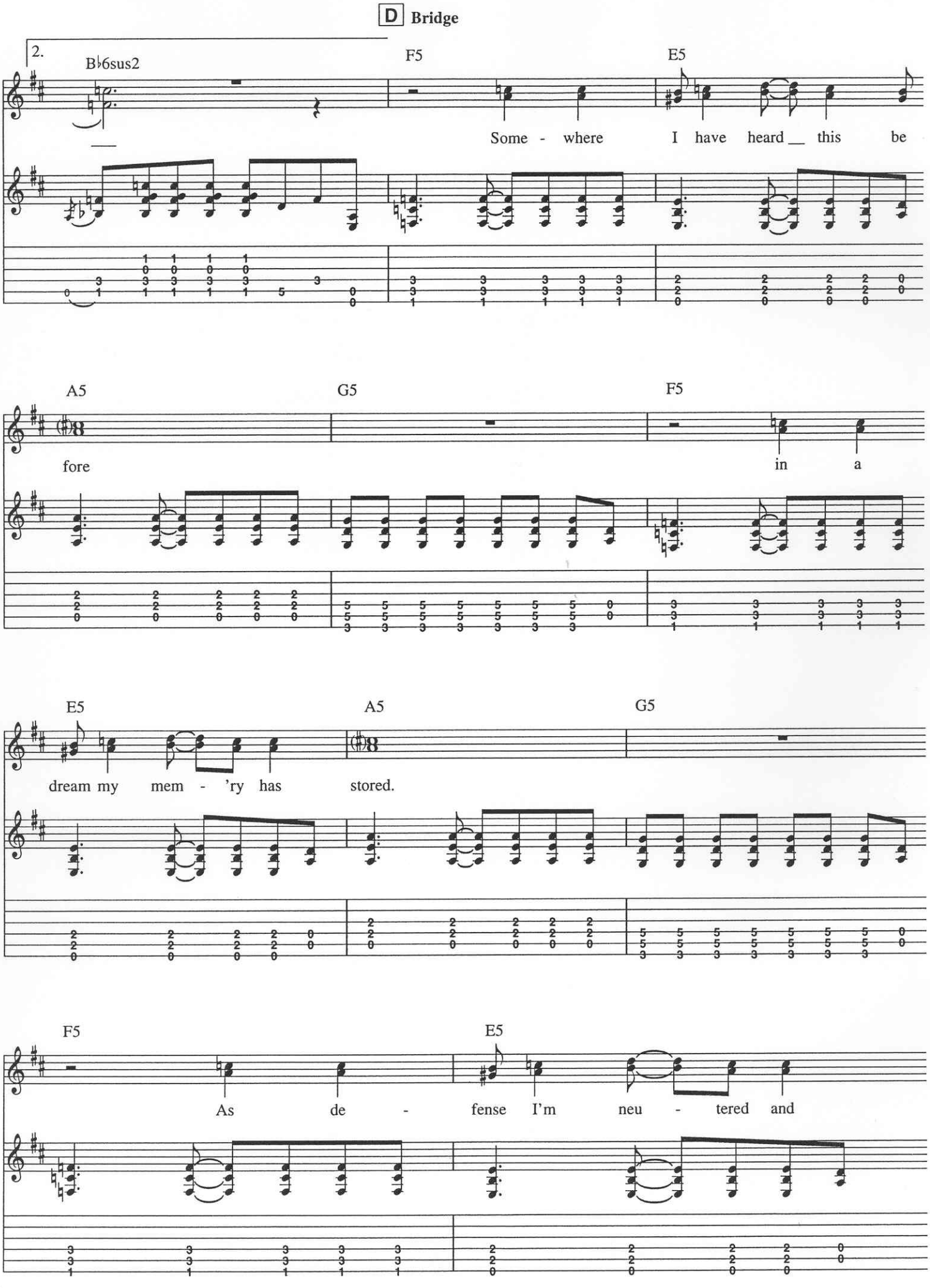

D G F E5 F5 E5
was when I learned to cry on com - mand.
For - got to put on the zip code.
and then I'm done, then I can go home.

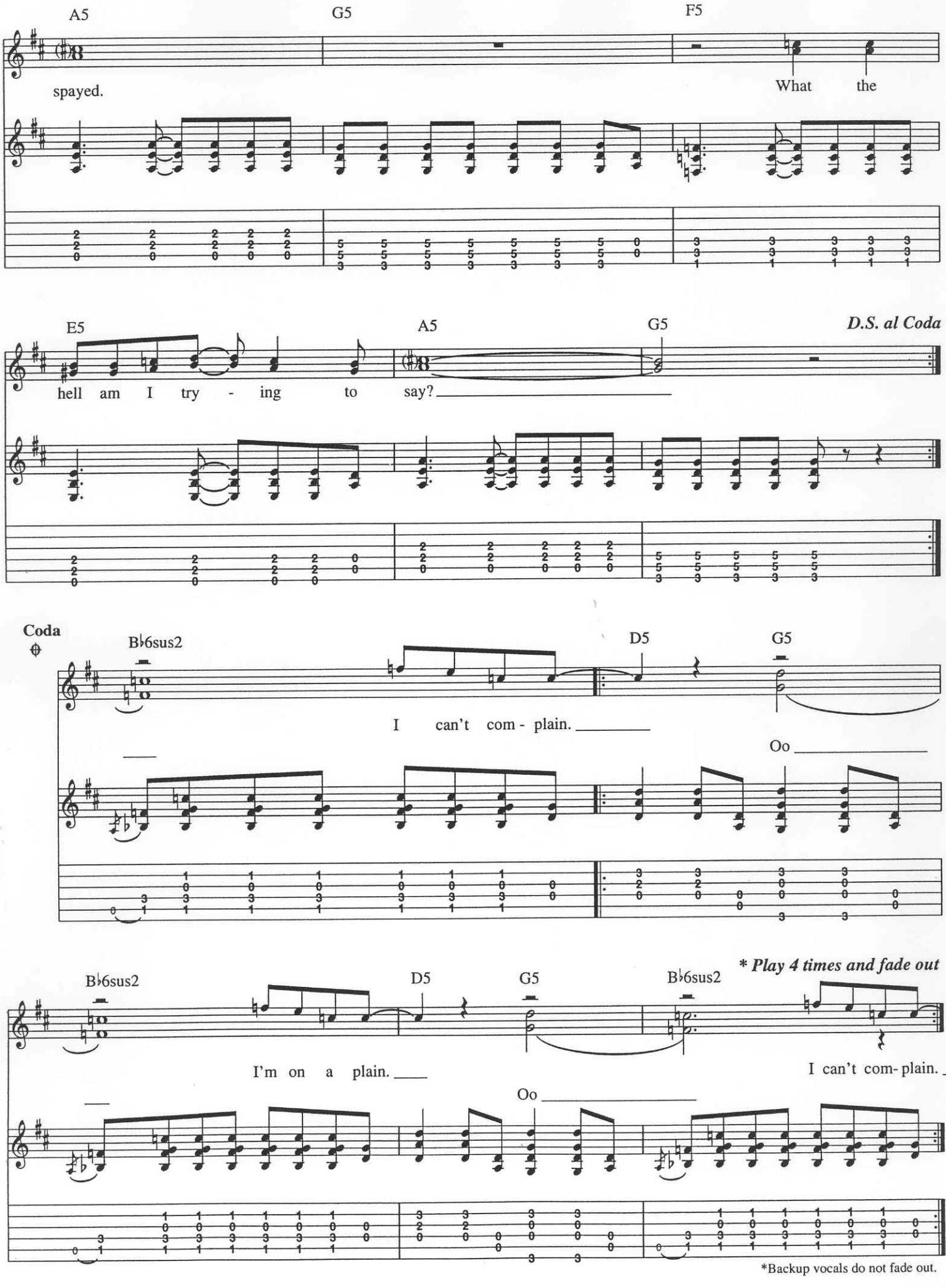

D C B5 A5 D G F E5 F5 E5
I love my - self bet - ter than you. I know it's wrong. So, what should I do?

C **Chorus**


D5 G5 B♭6sus2
I'm on a plain. I can't com- plain.
Oo


To Coda
D5 G5 B♭6sus2 D5 G5
1. B♭6sus2
I'm on a plain.
Oo Oo


D Bridge
2.
B♭6sus2
F5
E5
Some - where I have heard__ this be
A5
G5
F5
fore
in a
E5
A5
G5
dream my mem - 'ry has stored.
F5
E5
As de - fense I'm neu - tered and



*Backup vocals do not fade out.

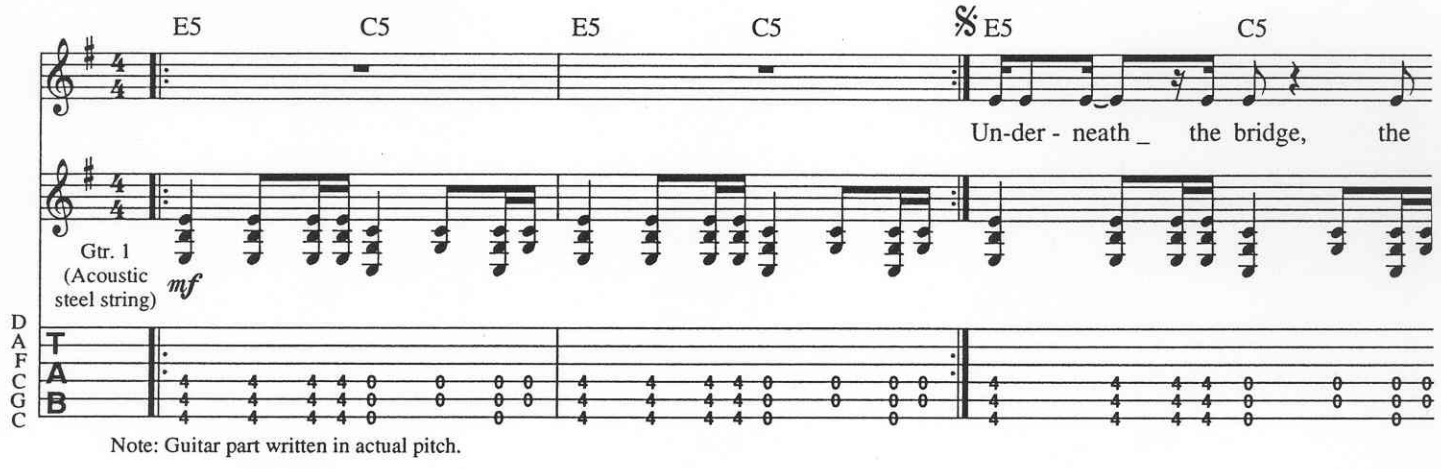
Something In The Way

By Kurt Cobain

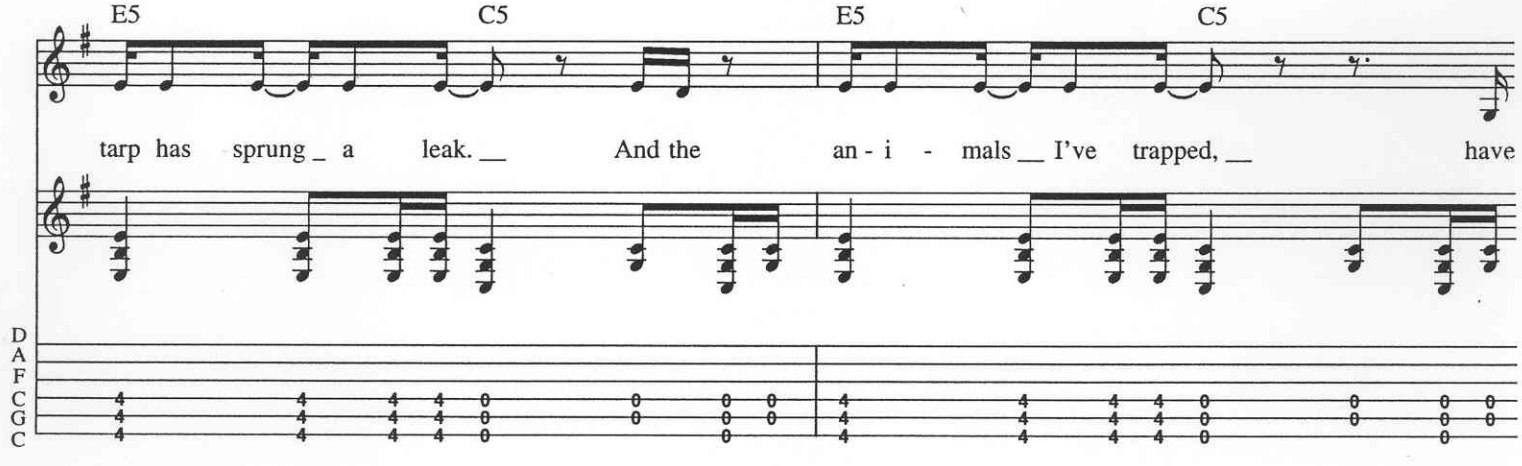
Tuning:
⑥ = C ⑤ = G
④ = C ③ = F
② = A ① = D

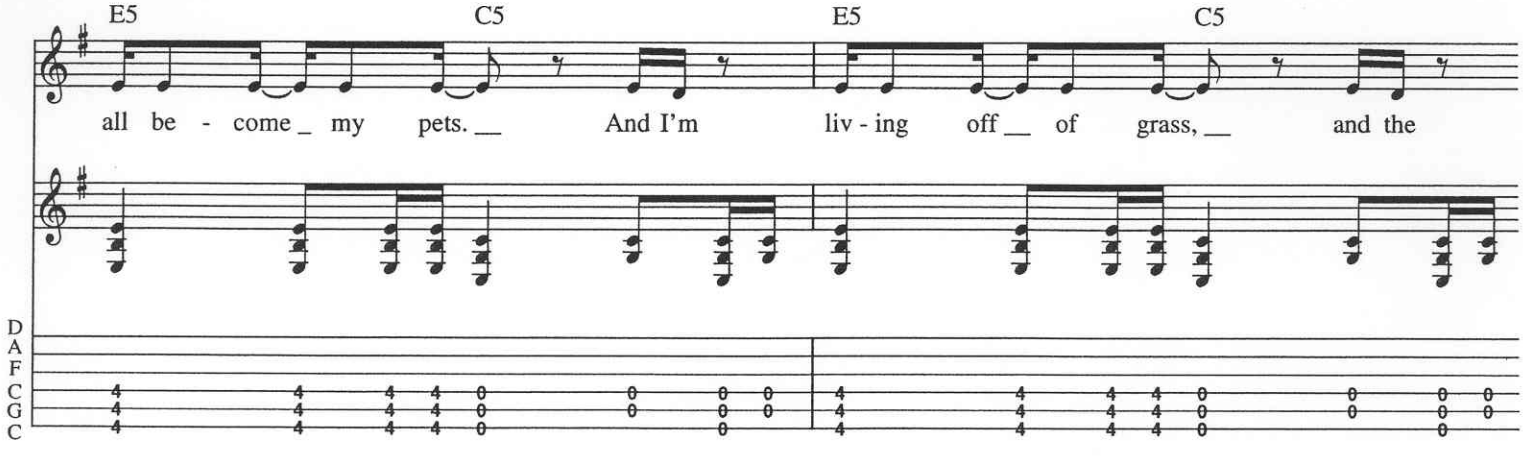
Intro
Slow and Mysterious (♩ = 54)

A Verse



Note: Guitar part written in actual pitch.





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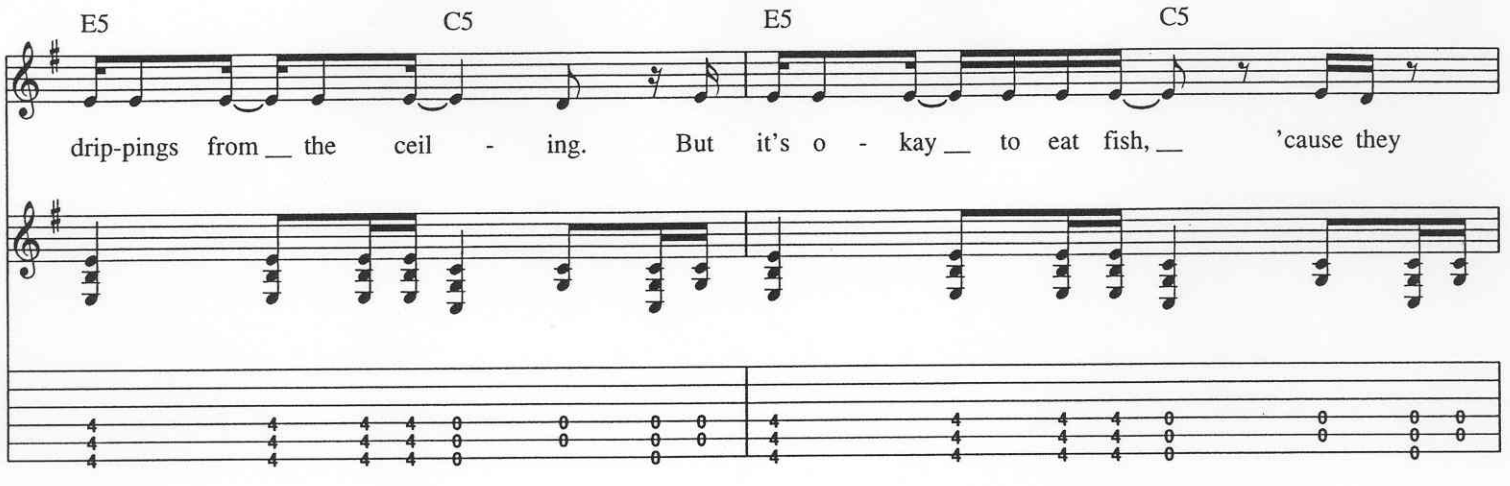
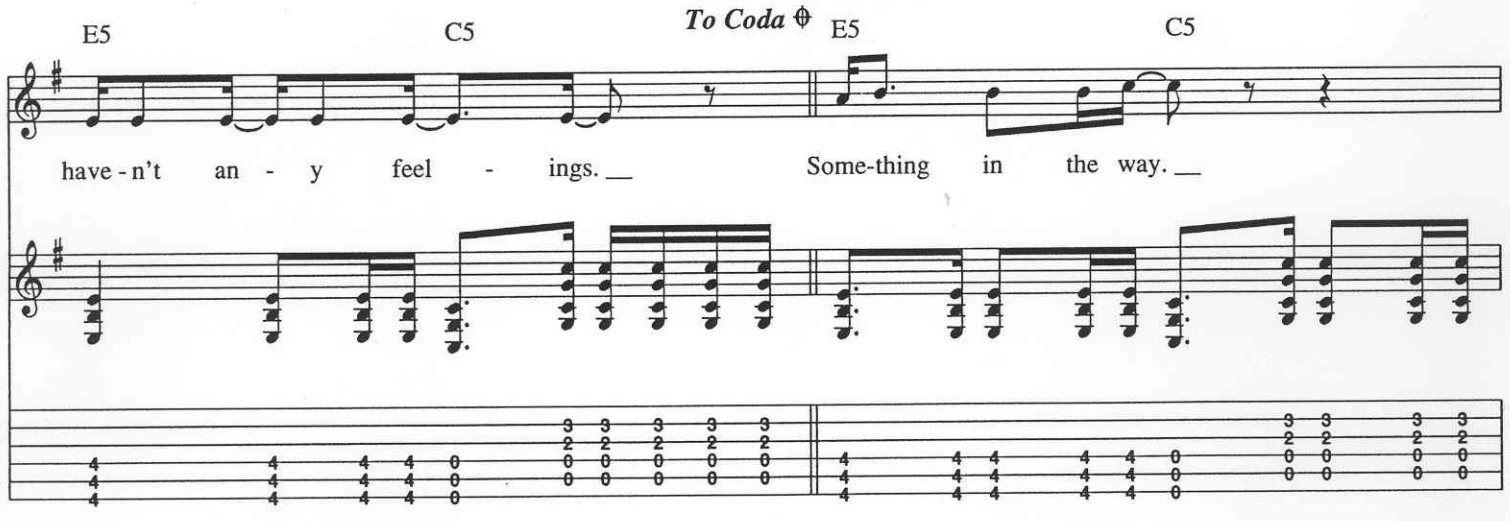
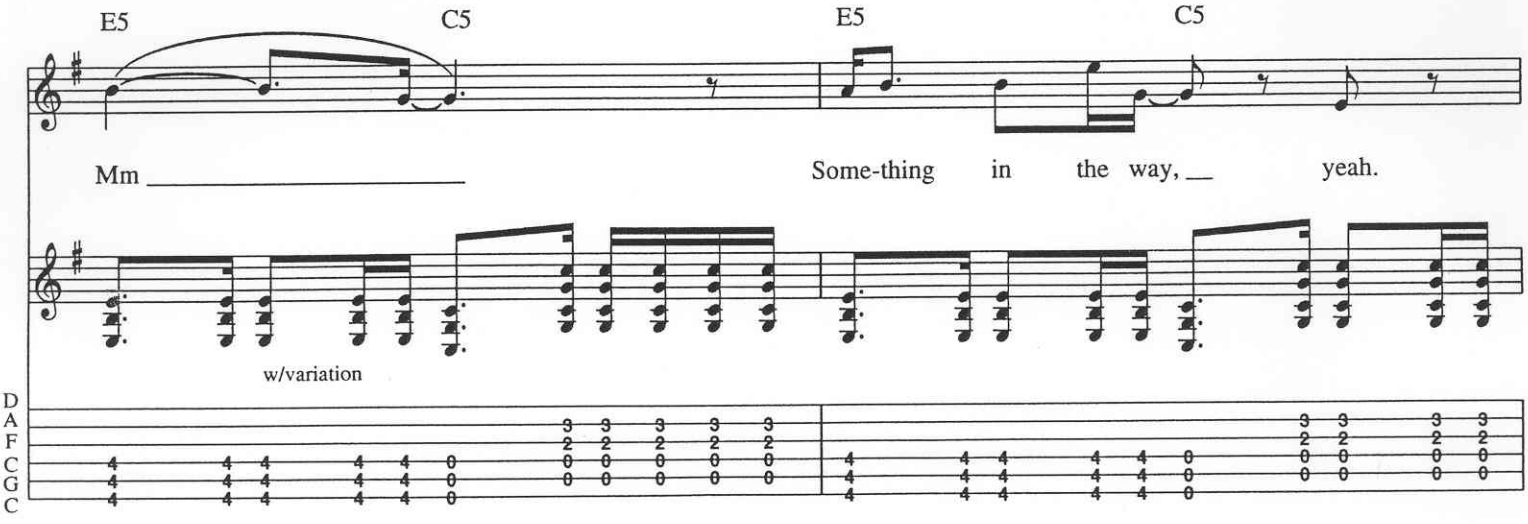
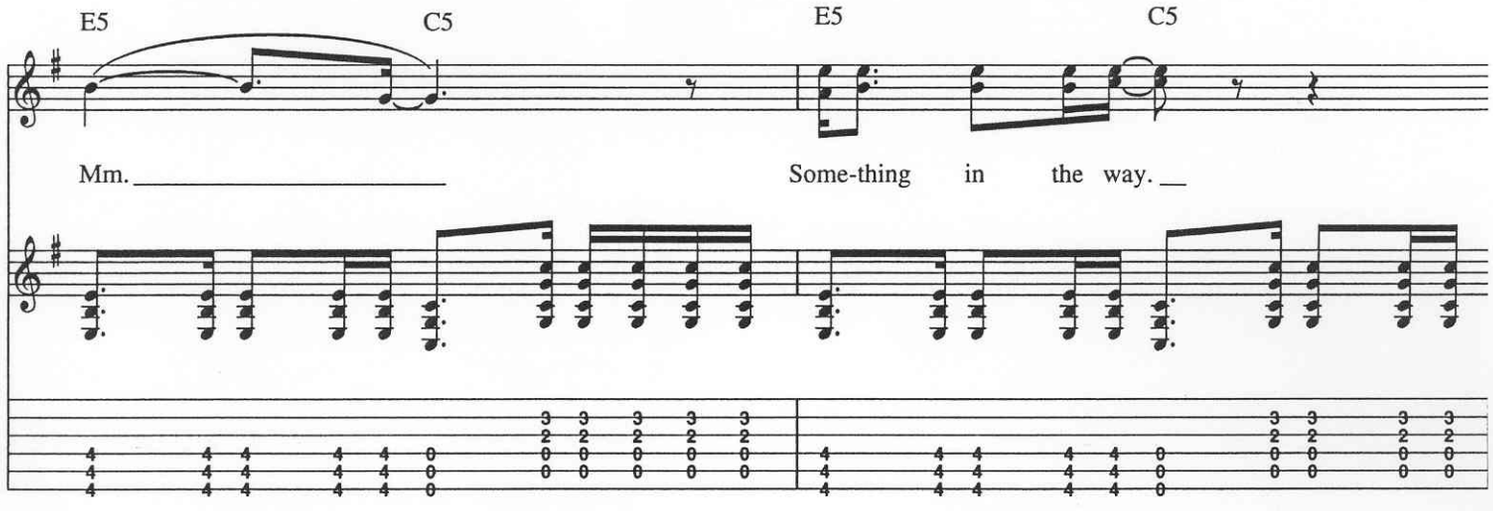


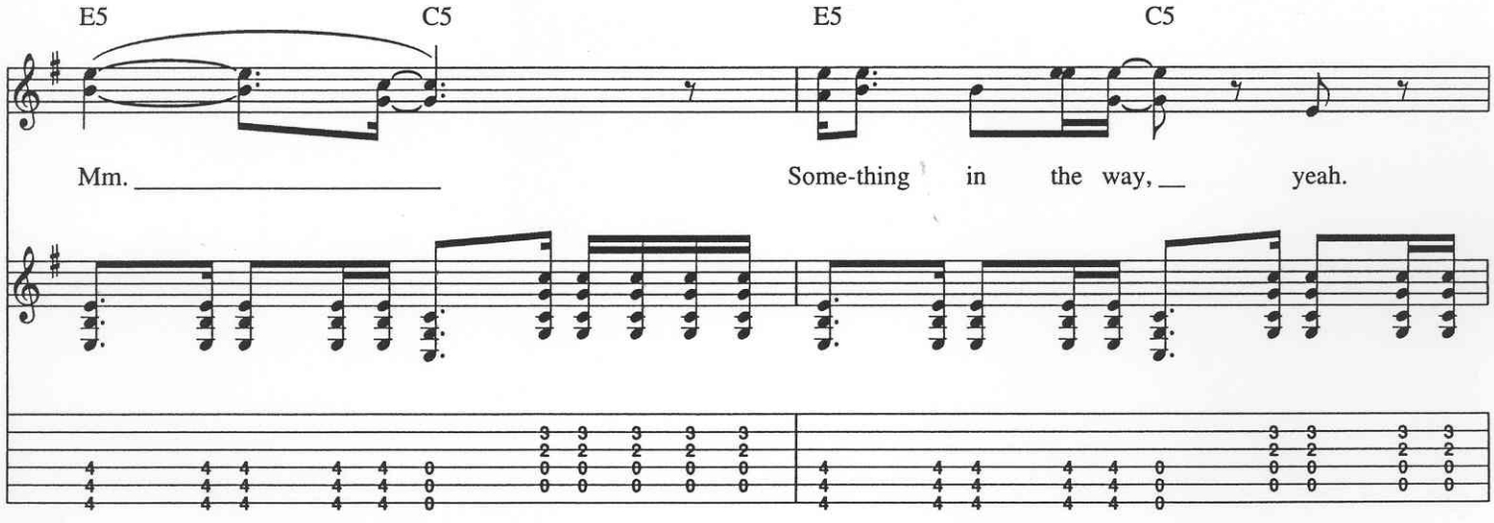
B **Chorus**

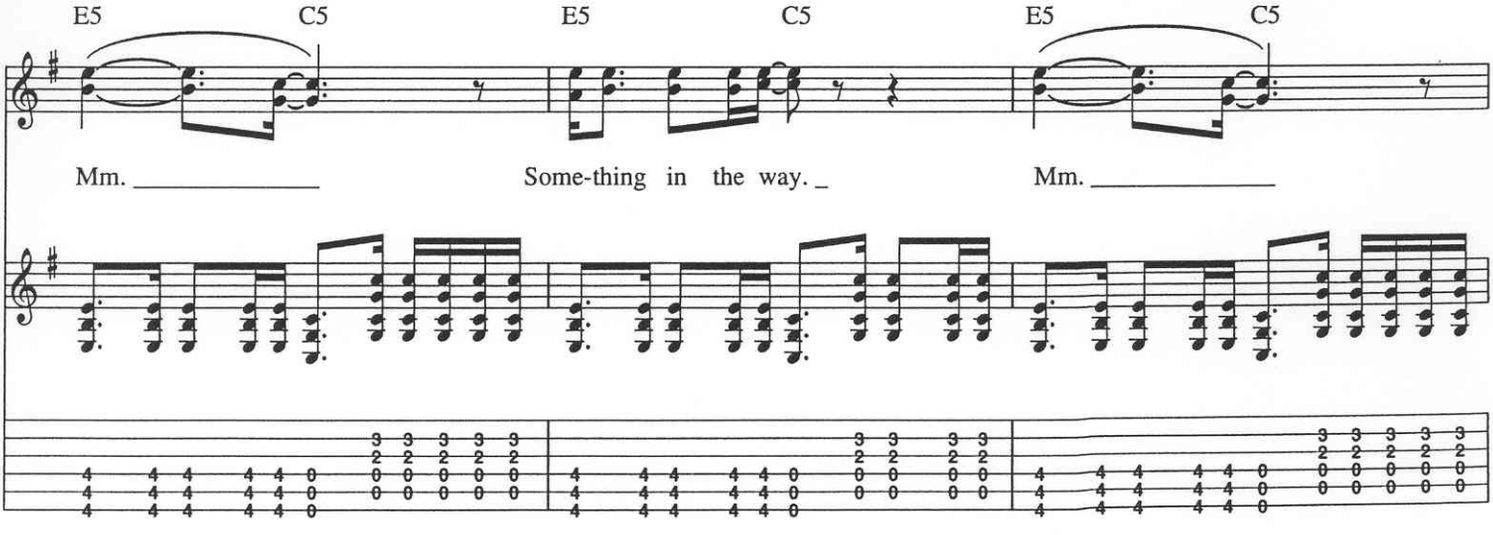
To Coda 𝄌

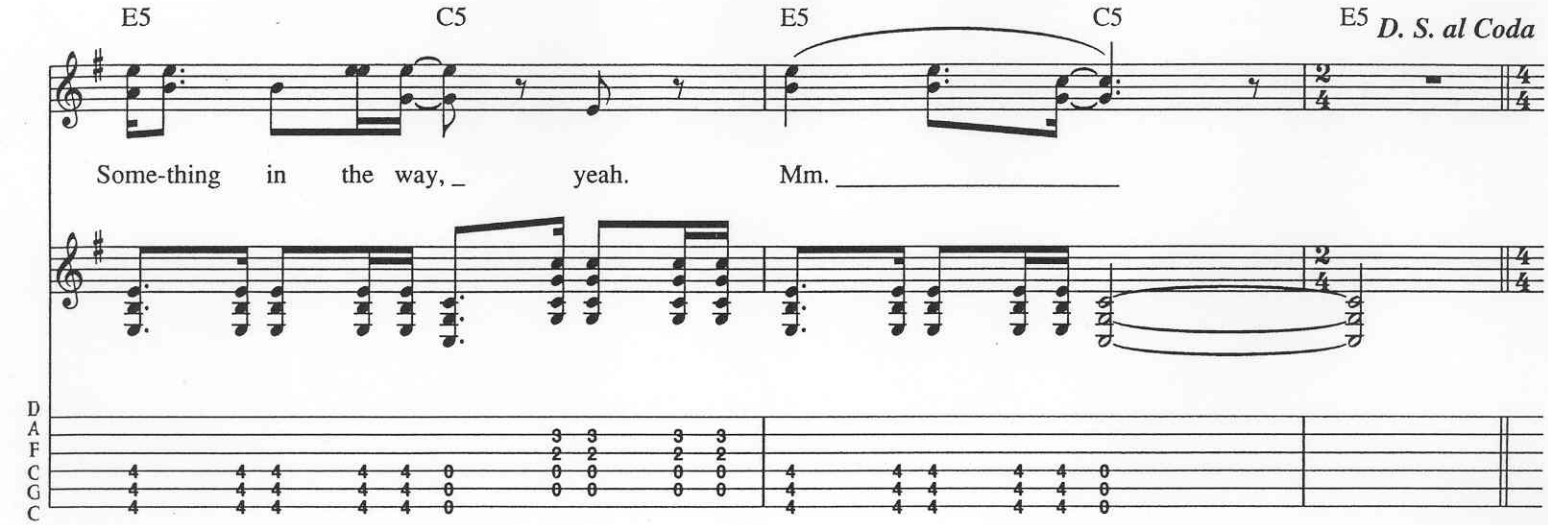


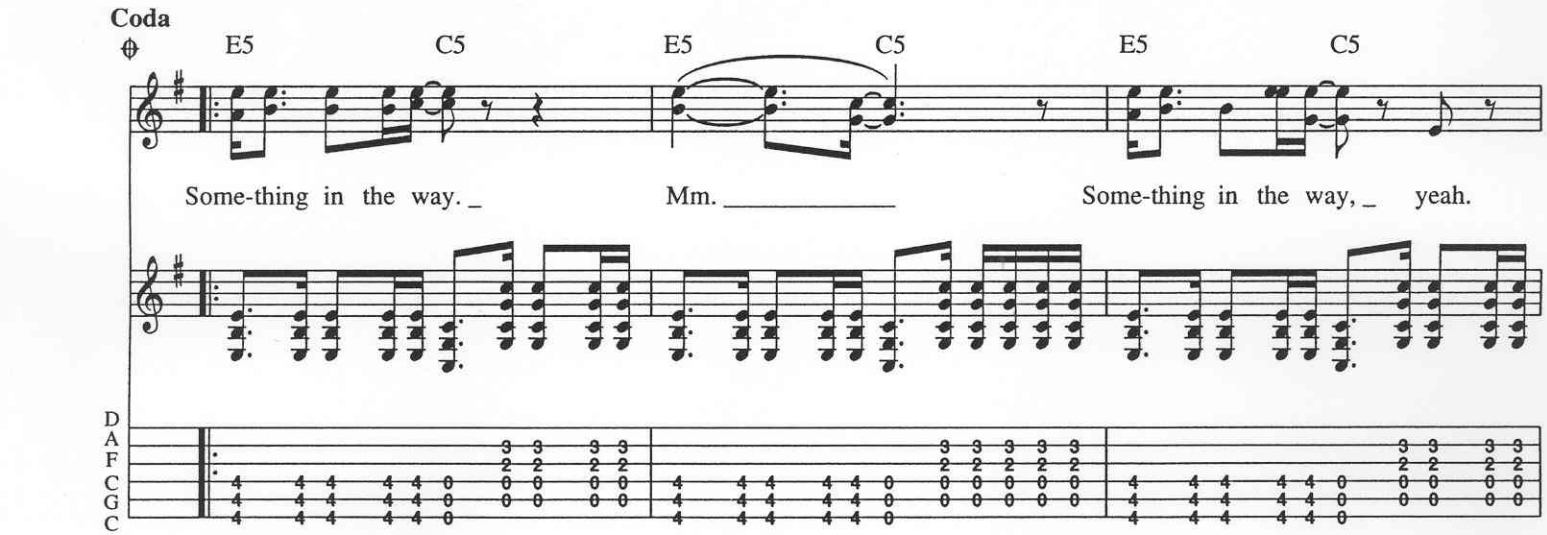


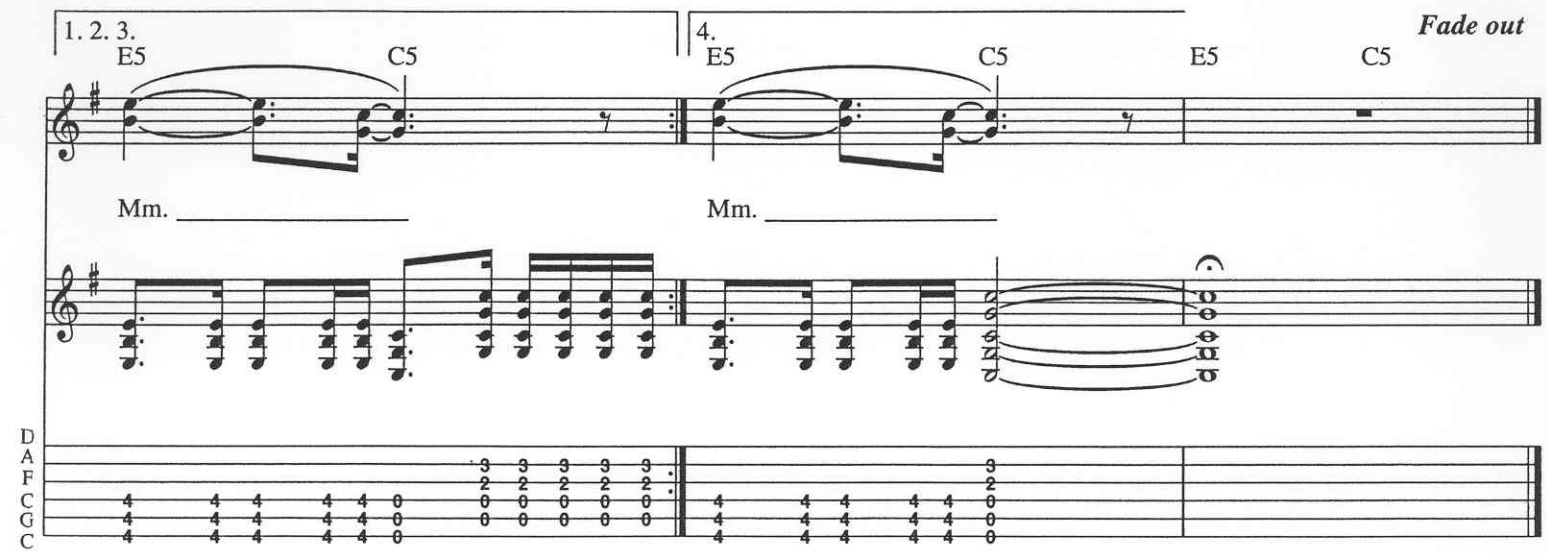

E5
C5
E5
C5
Mm.
Some-thing in the way.
D
A
F
C
G
C


E5
C5
E5
C5
Mm.
Some-thing in the way,
yeah.
D
A
F
C
G
C

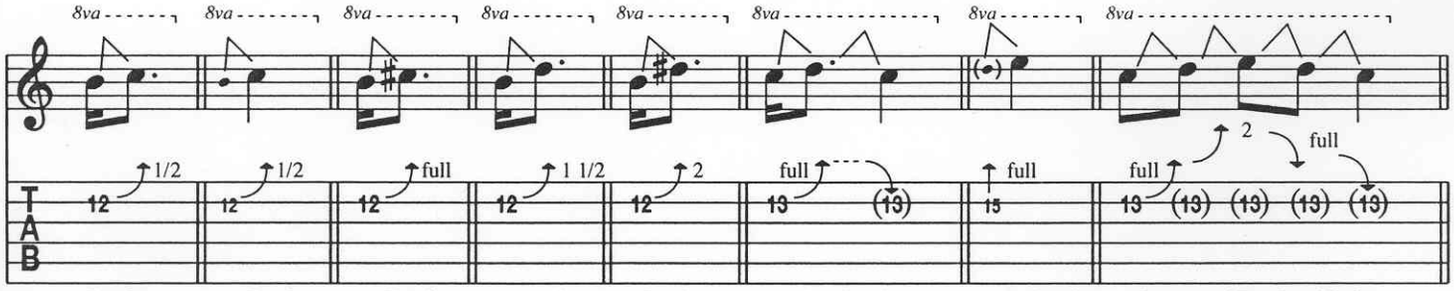

E5
C5
E5
C5
E5
C5
Mm.
Some-thing in the way.
Mm.
D
A
F
C
G
C


E5
C5
E5
C5
E5
D. S. al Coda
Some-thing in the way, _ yeah. Mm. _____
D
A
F
C
G
C

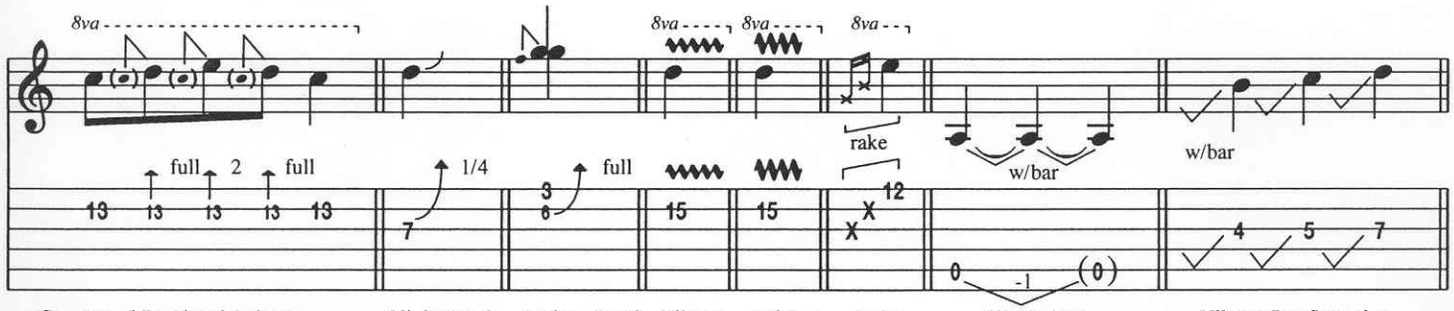

Coda
E5
C5
E5
C5
E5
C5
Some-thing in the way. _ Mm. _____ Some-thing in the way, _ yeah.
D
A
F
C
G
C


1. 2. 3.
4.
Fade out
E5
C5
E5
C5
E5
C5
Mm. _____ Mm. _____
D
A
F
C
G
C

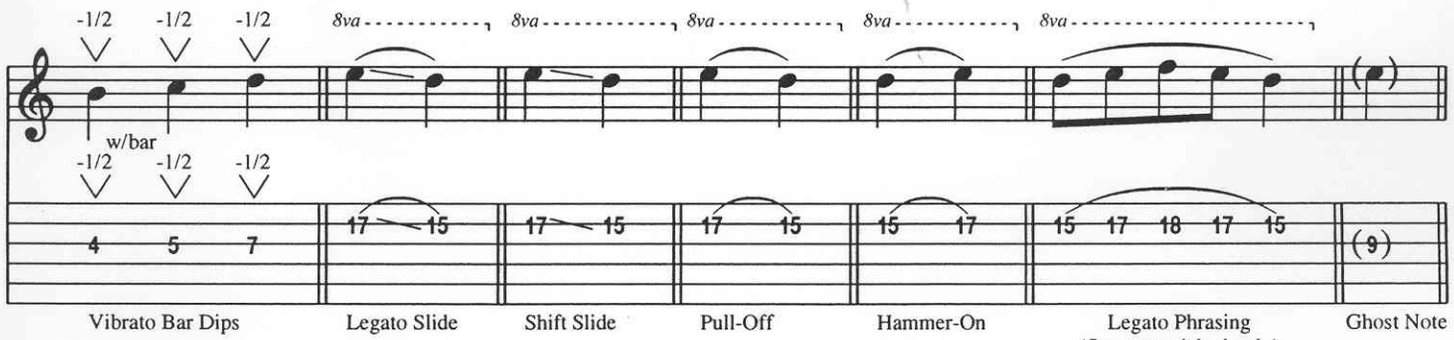
NOTATION LEGEND



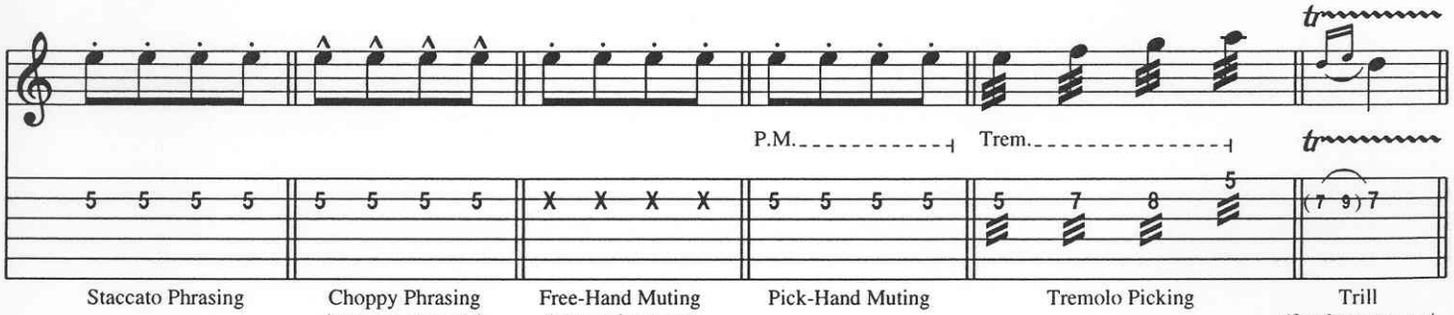
Bend (half step) | Bend | Bend (whole step) | Bend (whole and half steps) | Bend (two whole steps) | Bend and Release | Prebend (string bent before picking) | Compound Bend and Release (only first note plucked)



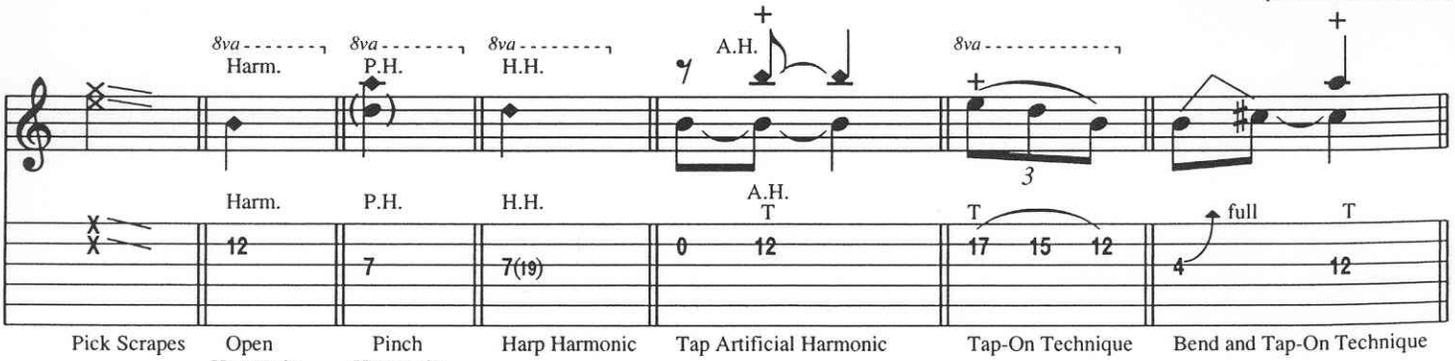
Compound Bend and Release (every note picked) | Slight Bend (microtone) | Unison Bend | Vibrato | Wide Vibrato | Rake Strings | Vibrato Bar Dive and Return | Vibrato Bar Scooping



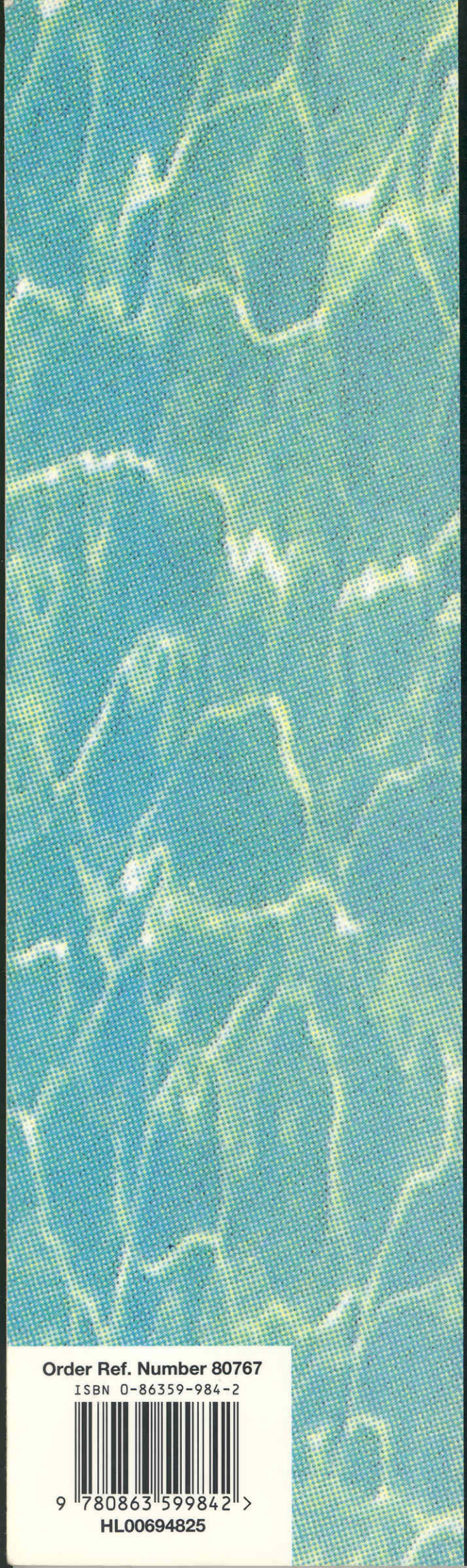
Vibrato Bar Dips | Legato Slide | Shift Slide | Pull-Off | Hammer-On | Legato Phrasing (first note picked only) | Ghost Note



Staccato Phrasing | Choppy Phrasing (extreme staccato) | Free-Hand Muting (percussive tone) | Pick-Hand Muting | Tremolo Picking | Trill (fast hammer-on/ pull-off combination)



Pick Scrapes | Open Harmonic | Pinch Harmonic (with pick) (overtone of 5th generated) | Harp Harmonic | Tap Artificial Harmonic | Tap-On Technique | Bend and Tap-On Technique



Smells Like Teen Spirit

In Bloom

Come As You Are

Breed

Lithium

Polly

Territorial Pissings

Drain You

Lounge Act

Stay Away

On A Plain

Something In The Way

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