```
       G                           Am                      C                Am
now for ten years we've been on our own and moss grows fat on a rolling stone
     Em           D                      G      D          Em
but that's not how it used to be, when the jester sang for the king and queen
     Am7              C                           Em         A7              D
in a coat he borrowed from James Dean and a voice that came from you and me
         Em               D                   Em            D                C
oh and while the king was looking down the jester stole his thorny crown the courtroom
 G      Am7    C               D             G    D    Em                  Am
was adjourned, no verdict was returned and while Lenin read a book of Marx the quartet
      C            G       D  Em              C        D7      G C G         D
practiced in the park & we sang dirges in the dark the day the music died,    we were singing

     G          Am                           C                 Am
helter skelter in the summer swelter the birds flew off with a fallout shelter
Em          D        G   D    Em                  Am7                         C
8 miles high & falling fast it landed foul on the grass, the players tried for a forward pass
Em                     A7          D              Em              D
with the jester on the sidelines in a cast, now the halftime air was sweet perfume
         Em             D           C    G    Am7              C              D7
while sergeants played a marching tune we all got up to dance oh, but we never got the chance
            G      D     Em              Am                Cm
'cause the players tried to take the field, the marching band refused to yield
 G      D       Em              C      D7     G C G              D
do you recall what was revealed the day the music died?     we started singing

        G              Am           C            Am
oh, and there we were all in one place a generation lost in space
     Em            D                  G          D    Em
with no time left to start again so come on, Jack be nimble, Jack be quick
 Am7                 C                Em        A7        D
Jack Flash sat on a candlestick 'cause fire is the devil's only friend
        Em           D                Em                      D
oh, and as I watched him on the stage my hands were clenched in fists of rage
 C      G    Am7        C                  D7
no angel born in Hell could break that Satan's spell
            G            D    Em              Am                C
and as the flames climbed high into the night to light the sacrificial rite
    G       D       Em              C      D7     G C G              D
I saw Satan laughing with delight the day the music died        he was singing

   G   D       Em               Am                    C
I met a girl who sang the blues and I asked her for some happy news
     Em                    D        G      D     Em
but she just smiled and turned away, I went down to the sacred store
       Am              C                Em                A7            D
where I'd heard the music years before but the man there said the music wouldn't play
    Em              Am                Em                Am
and in the streets, the children screamed the lovers cried and the poets dreamed
       C     G      Am7        C                  D7
but not a word was spoken, the church bells all were broken
          G       D  Em               Am7                      D
and the three men I admire most - the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost
 G           D       Em              C      D7     G
they caught the last train for the coast the day the music died and they were singing
```