BLACK DAY IN JULY
Gordon Lightfoot

1 2 / 1 2 /

[Am]/[Am]/[Am]/[Am]/

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
[Am] Motor City **[G]** madness has **[C]** touched the country-**[Am]**side **[Am]**
And **[F]** through the smoke and **[Am]** cinders, you can **[F]** hear it far and **[Am]** wide
The **[F]** doors are quickly **[Am]** bolted and the **[F]** children locked in-**[Am]**side **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
And the **[Am]** soul of Motor **[G]** City is **[C]** bared across the **[Am]** land **[Am]**
As the **[F]** book of law and **[Am]** order, is **[F]** taken in the **[Am]** hands
Of the **[F]** sons of the **[Am]** fathers, who were **[F]** carried to this **[Am]** land **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
In the **[Am]** streets of Motor **[G]** City there's a **[C]** deadly silent **[Am]** sound **[Am]**
And the **[F]** body of a **[Am]** dead youth, lies **[F]** stretched upon the **[Am]** ground
Up-**[F]**on the filthy **[Am]** pavement, no **[F]** reason can be **[Am]** found **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
[Am] Motor City **[G]** madness has **[C]** touched the country-**[Am]**side **[Am]**
And the **[F]** people rise in **[Am]** anger and the **[F]** streets begin to **[Am]** fill
And there's **[F]** gunfire from the **[Am]** rooftops and the **[F]** blood begins to **[Am]** spill **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]/[Am]/[Am]**

BRIDGE:
In the **[Am]** mansion of the **[F]** governor there's **[Am6]** nothing that is **[F]** known for sure
The **[Am]** telephone is **[F]** ringing and the **[Am6]** pendulum is **[F]** swinging
And they **[Am]** wonder how it **[F]** happened when they **[Am6]** really know the **[F]** reason
And it **[Am]** wasn't just the **[F]** temperature and it **[Am6]** wasn't just the **[F]** season **[F]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]/[Am]/**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
[Am] Motor City's **[G]** burning and the **[C]** flames are running **[Am]** wild **[Am]**
They re-**[F]**flect upon the **[Am]** waters of the **[F]** river and the **[Am]** lake
And **[F]** everyone is **[Am]** listening and **[F]** everyone's a-**[Am]**wake **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
The **[Am]** printing press is **[G]** turning and the **[C]** news is quickly **[Am]** flashed **[Am]**
And you **[F]** read your morning **[Am]** paper, and you **[F]** sip your cup of **[Am]** tea
And you **[F]** wonder just in **[Am]** passing, is it **[F]** him or is it **[Am]** me? **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]/[Am]/[Am]**

BRIDGE:
In the **[Am]** office of the **[F]** President, the **[Am6]** deed is done the **[F]** troops are sent
There's **[Am]** really not much **[F]** choice you see, it **[Am6]** looks to us like **[F]** anarchy
And **[Am]** then the tanks go **[F]** rolling in to **[Am6]** patch things up as **[F]** best they can
There **[Am]** is no time to **[F]** hesitate, the **[Am6]** speech is made the **[F]** dues can wait **[F]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]/[Am]/**

[Am] Black day in Ju-**[G]**ly **[G]**
The **[Am]** streets of Motor **[G]** City now are **[C]** quiet and se-**[Am]**rene **[Am]**
But the **[F]** shapes of gutted **[Am]** buildings strike **[F]** terror to the **[Am]** heart
And you **[F]** say "How did it **[Am]** happen?" and you **[F]** say "How did it **[Am]** start?
Why **[F]** can't we all be **[Am]** brothers? Why **[F]** can't we live in **[Am]** peace?"
But the **[F]** hands of the **[Am]** have-nots, keep **[F]** falling out of **[Am]** reach **[Am]**
[G] Black day in Ju-**[Am]**ly **[Am]/[Am]/**

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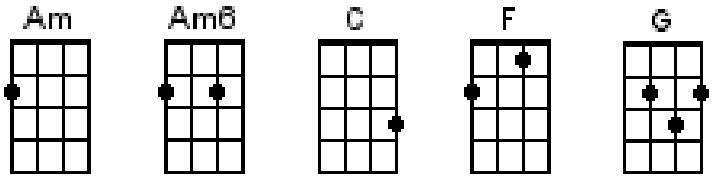

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