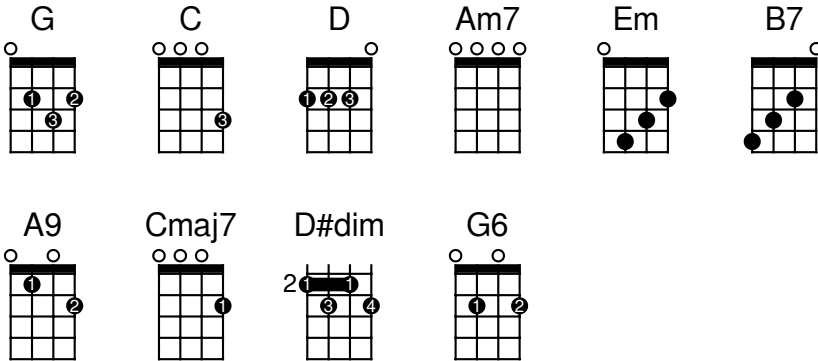


# The Pretender

Jackson Browne



I'm gonna [G]rent myself a house in the shade of the [C]freeway,  
Gonna [G]pack my lunch in the morning, and go to [D]work each [C]day  
And when the [G]evening rolls a [C]round,  
I'll go on [G]home and lay my body [C]down  
And when the [G]morning light comes streaming [D]in  
I'll get up and do it again [C] [G] [Am7]A---[G]men  
Say it again [C] [G] [Am7]A---[G]men

I want to [G]know what became of the changes,  
We waited for [C]love to bring  
Were they [G]only the fitful dreams  
Of some greater a [D]wakening [C]  
I've been a [G]ware of the time going [C]by  
They say in the [G]end it's the blink of an [C]eye  
And when the [G]morning light comes streaming [D]in  
You'll get up and do it again [C] [G] [Am7]A---[G]men  
[C] [G] [Am7] [G]

Caught between the [D]longing for love  
And the [C]struggle for the legal [Em]tender [B7]  
Where the [C]sirens sing and the churchbells ring  
And the [Em]junkman pounds his fender  
Where the [C]veterans dream of the [G]fight,  
Fast a [B7]sleep at the traffic [Em]light  
And the [A9]children solemnly [A9/G]wait  
for the ice [D]cream vendor [Em] [D]

Out into the [Cmaj7]cool of the evening,  
[D]strolls the pr[Em]etender  
He knows that all [Cmaj7]his hopes and dreams [D]  
Begin and end [G]there

[G] [C] Ah the lovers as they run through the [G]night  
[C] Leaving nothing but to choose off and [Em]fight  
Em\* [D#dim] And tear at the [G]world with all their [C]might  
While the [G]ships bearing their [Em]dreams  
Sail out of [G6]sight [D]

I'm gonna [G]find myself a girl,  
Who can show me what [C]laughter means  
Then we'll [G]fill in the missing colors in each others  
[D]Paint by number [C]dreams  
And then we'll [G]put our dark glasses [C]on  
And we'll make [G]love until our strength is [C]gone  
And when the [G]morning light comes streaming [D]in  
We'll get up and do it again [C] [G] [Am7] [G]  
Get it up again [C] [G] [Am7] [G]

I'm gonna be a [D]happy idiot, and [C]struggle for the legal [Em]tender  
[B7] Where the [C]ads take aim, and lay their claim  
To the [Em]heart and the soul of the spender  
And be [C]lieve in whatever may [G]lie  
In those [B7]things that money can [Em]buy  
Though true [A9]love could have [A9/G]been a con[D]tender [Em] [D]  
Are you [Cmaj7]there, say a [D]prayer for the pre[Em]tender  
Who started [Cmaj7]out so young and [D]strong only to sur[G]render

[G] Say a prayer for the pre[C]tender  
[G] Are you there for the pre[C]tender  
[G] Say a prayer for the pre[C]tender  
[G] Oh, are you there for the pre[C]tender  
[G] Are you prepared for the pre[C]tender