

The Sixties Collection



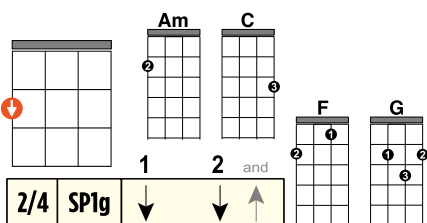
The Sound of Silence (Paul Simon)

1 *Am*— *G* // / *Am* /
 (Hello darkness, my old) friend - I've come to talk with you a-gain;
Am *C* *F* *C* / / *F* *C* /
 Because a vision softly creeping left its seeds while I was sleeping,
C *F* / / / *C* / *Am* /
 And the vision that was planted in my brain still re - mains,
C / *G* / *Am* /
 Within the sound of silence.

2 *Am*— *G* // / *Am* /
 (In restless dreams I walked a -) lone narrow streets of cobblestone
Am *C* *F* *C* / / *F* *C* /
 'Neath the halo of a street lamp I turned my collar to the cold and damp,
C *F* / / / *C*
 When my eyes were stabbed by the flash of a neon light
C *Am* / *C* / *G* / *Am* /
 That split the night, and touched the sound of silence.

3 *Am*— *G* // / *Am* /
 (And in the naked light I) saw ten thousand people, maybe more;
Am *C* *F* *C* / / *F* *C* /
 People talking without speaking, people hearing without list'ning.
C *F* / / / *C* / *Am* /
 People writing songs that voices never share - no one dared
C / *G* / *Am* /
 Disturb the sound of silence.

5 *Am*— *G* // / *Am* /
 (And the people bowed and) prayed to the neon god they made;
Am *C* *F* *C* / / *F* *C* /
 And the sign flashed out its warning in the words that it was forming,
C *F* / / /
 And the sign said, "The words of the prophets are written on the subway
C / *Am* / *C* / *Am* *Am* —
 walls and tenement halls" and whispered in the sound of silence.



Recorded by Simon and Garfunkle and released as a single in 1964. It was initially a flop, and the duo broke up. A year later, a producer added drums and electric guitar, and the song was released again in September 1965. This time, it was a worldwide hit.

