

The Leader Of The Band

Chords And Lyrics

By Dan Fogelberg

Intro – G-C-Am-Em-D7-G-C/G-G-C/G-G-C/G-G

G G/C G Bm C
An only child, alone and wild, a cabinet maker's son
Am Em Am G6 C D
His hands were meant for different work and his heart was known to none
G C/G G Bm C
He left his home and went his lone and solitary way
Am Em D7 G C/G G C/G G C/G G
And he gave to me a gift I know I never can repay.

G G/C G Bm C
A quiet man of music, denied a simpler fate
Am Em Am G6 C D
He tried to be a soldier once but his music wouldn't wait
G C/G G Bm C
He earned his love through discipline, a thund'ring, velvet hand
Am Em D7 G
His gentle means of sculpting souls took me years to understand

C Bm C G
The leader of the band is tired and his eyes are growing old
Am Em Am G6 C D
But his blood runs through my instrument and his song is in my soul
C Bm C G
My life has been a poor attempt to imitate the man
Am Em D7 G C/G G C/G G C/G G
I'm just a living legacy to the leader of the band.

G G/C G Bm C
My brothers' lives were different, for they heard another call
Am Em Am G6 C D
One went to Chicago and the other to Saint Paul
G C/G G Bm C
And I'm in Colorado, when I'm not in some hotel
Am Em D7 G C/G G
Living out this life I've chosen, come to know so well

Intro - G-C-Am-Em-D7-G-C/G-G-C/G-G-C/G-G

G G/C G Bm C
I thank you for the music and your stories of the road
Am Em Am G6 C D
I thank you for the freedom when it came my time to go
G C/G G Bm C
I thank you for the kindness and the times when you got tough
Am Em D7 G
And, Papa, I don't think I said "I love you" near enough.

C Bm C G
The leader of the band is tired and his eyes are growing old
Am Em Am G6 C D
But his blood runs through my instrument and his song is in my soul
C Bm C G
My life has been a poor attempt to imitate the man

Am Em D7 G
I'm just a living legacy to the leader of the band
Am Em Am G6 C D G C/G G C/G G C/G G
I am the living legacy to the leader of the band

Intro - G-C-Am-Em-D7-G-C/G-G-C/G-G-C/G-G