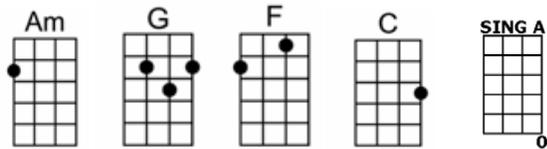


# The Sound of Silence

by Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel

9/11/11: Paul Simon sang this at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemoration of 9/11.



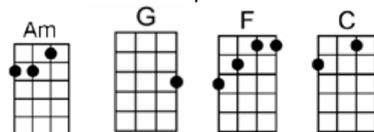
[Am] Hello darkness, my old [G] friend, I've come to talk with you [Am] again,  
Because a vision softly [F] creep- [C] ing,  
Left it's [Am] seeds while I was [F] sleep- [C] ing,  
And the [F] vision that was [F/C] planted in my [C] brain  
Still [Am] remains Within the [G] sound of [Am] silence.

[Am] In restless dreams I walked [G] alone, narrow streets of cobble- [Am] stone,  
'Neath the halo of a [F] street [C] lamp, I turned my collar to the [F] cold and [C] damp  
When my [F] eyes were stabbed by the [F/C] flash of a neon [C] light  
That split the [Am] night and touched the [G] sound of [Am] silence.

And in the naked light I [G] saw, ten thousand people, maybe [Am] more.  
People talking without [F] speak- [C] ing,  
[Am] People hearing without [F] listen- [C] ing,  
People writing [F] songs that [F/C] voices never [C] share  
And no one [Am] dare, disturb the [G] sound of [Am] silence.

Fools said I, you do not [G] know, silence like a cancer [Am] grows.  
Hear my words that I might [F] teach [C] you,  
[Am] Take my arms that I might [F] reach [C] you.  
But my [F] words like [F/C] silent raindrops [C] fell,  
And [Am] echoed in the [G] wells of [Am] silence

And the people bowed and [G] prayed, to the neon God they [Am] made.  
And the sign flashed out it's [F] warn- [C] ing,  
[Am] In the words that it was [F] form- [C] ing.  
And the [Am] sign said, the [F] words of the prophets  
Are [F/C] written on the subway [C] walls  
And tenement [Am] halls. and whispered in the [G] sounds of [Am] silence.



BARITONE CHORDS:

This is the song that propelled the 1960s [folk music](#) duo [Simon & Garfunkel](#) to popularity. It was written in February 1964 by [Paul Simon](#) in the aftermath of the 1963 assassination of [John F. Kennedy](#).<sup>[1]</sup>