

# DRIVING THROUGH MYTHICAL AMERICA

words by CLIVE JAMES : music by PETE ATKIN

The musical score consists of six staves of handwritten notation on five-line staff paper. Chords are written above the staves, and lyrics are written below them. The chords include A7, Dm, Bbm, Db, Gb, Bb, Eb, Ab, F#7, G#7, C9, and Am7. The lyrics describe a group of students driving through mythical America, encountering various celebrities and figures from history and fiction.

Four stu-dents in the usu-al light of  
day Set out to speak their minds about the  
war Una-ware that Eddie Fru was on the  
way Things had to snap be-fore they knew the score  
They were driv-ing through myth-ic-al Am-er-i-c-a  
A Rooney-Garland show was in the  
barn And Fields was at the Pussy-cat Caf-e  
No-one had even heard of Her-man Kahn And

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Em F#7 A  
Jer-sey Joe was eager for the fray Four

F F#7 A7  
students had to take it in their stride

Dm D7 Bbm  
And couldn't feel the road be-neath the wheels

D7 Ab Gb Bb  
Of the car they didn't know they rode in-side

Ab Bb Eb  
A-cross the set and through the card-board hills

Ab Bb  
They were driv-ing through myth-ic-al Am-

F Gm7  
-er-ic-a they sold their Stude-baker Golden

Gm6 C G7 F#7  
Hawk And bought a Nash Am-bass-adør sal-oon

Ab B7  
Bogart said "Even the dead can talk" And

Em F#7 A  
suddenly the coats were all racc-oon Four

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F D F<sup>o</sup> A7  
students never knew that this was it

Dm D<sup>b</sup> Bbm  
There isn't much a tar-get needs to know

D<sup>b</sup>7 Ab G<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>  
Al-ready Baby-face had made the hit

Ab B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>  
And Rosebud was up-end-ed in the snow

A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>  
They were driv-ing through myth-ic-al Am-

F G<sup>m7</sup>  
-er-ic-a Gatsby floated

G<sup>m6</sup> C<sup>9</sup>  
broken in the pool The Kansas City

F<sup>#7</sup> A<sup>m7</sup>  
Seven found a groove Barry-more and

B<sup>7</sup> E<sup>m</sup>  
Lombard played the fool and Cheetah slowly

F<sup>#7</sup> A  
taught John Wayne to move Four

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F | D | A | F | A | F# | D | A | F# | D | A | F# | A |

students watched the soldiers load and aim

Dm | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G |

And never tumbled they were on the spot

D7 | Ab | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G |

Moose Molloy pulled ten years on a frame

Ab | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G |

The dough was phoney and the car was hot

Ab | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G | D | B | G |

They were driving through mythical America

F# | D | A | F# |

Gm7 | G | B | D | A | G | B | D | A | G | B | D | A |

Henry Ford paid

Gm6 | G | B | D | A | G | B | D | A | G | B | D | A |

G9 | G | B | D | A | E | G | B | D | A | E | G | B | D | A |

Rock-well did the seven bucks a day

F#7 | D | A | F# |

Am7 | A | E | C | F | A | E | C | F | A | E | C | F |

F. D. R. set covers on the Post

B7 | F# | D | A | F# |

Em | E | B | G | E | B | G | E | B | G | E | B | G | E |

up the T. V. A. And the stars rode silver

F#7 | D | A | F# |

A | A | E | C | A | E | C | A | E | C | A | E | C | A |

trains from coast to coast Four

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F D | D | F° | A7 |

students blinked at ord-in- ar-y skies But the

Dm | D | Bbm |

sunlight came from thousands of mot- els

D7 | A7 | Gb | Bb |

A highway through the night was in their eyes

Ab | Bb | Eb |

And waiting at the roadblock Orson Welles

Ab | Bb | Bb |

They were driv-ing through myth- ic al Am-

F | Gm7 | Gm7 |

-er- ic a - - - - Four students never

Gm6 | C9 | C9 |

guessed that they were through Their hist'ry had them

F | F#7 | A#D |

covered like a gun It hit them like a

B7 | Em | Em |

bolt out of the blue Too quick to grasp and

F#7 | A | G |

far too late to run They crashed

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