

# At Seventeen Janis Ian

Hear this song at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k39P2MK6WPo> (play along in this key)

From: Richard G's Ukulele Songbook [www.scorpexuke.com](http://www.scorpexuke.com)

Intro: [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7] [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

I [Csus2] learned the [C] truth at [Cmaj7] seven[Am7]teen  
That [Dsus2] love was [Dm] meant for [F+] beauty [Dm] queens  
And [G7sus2] high school [G7] girls with [G7sus4] clear skinned [G7] smiles  
Who [Csus2] married [C] young and [Cmaj7] then re[Am7]tired [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

The [Csus2] valen[C]tines I [Cmaj7] never [Am7] knew  
The [Dsus2] Friday [Dm] night cha[F+]rades of [Dm] youth  
Were [G7sus2] spent on [G7] one more [G7sus4] beauti[G7]ful  
At [Csus2] seven[C]teen I [Cmaj7] learned the [Am7] truth [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

And [Eb] those of us with ravaged faces [Dm] lacking in the [G7] social graces  
[Cm] Desperately re[Fm]mained at home in[Cm]venting lovers [Fm] on the phone  
Who [Ab] called to say come [G7] dance with me and [Cm] murmured vague ob[Fm]scenities  
[Dm] It isn't all it seems at [G7] seventeen

A [Csus2] brown eyed [C] girl in [Cmaj7] hand me [Am7] downs  
Whose [Dsus2] name I [Dm] never [F+] could pro[Dm]nounce  
Said [G7sus2] pity [G7] please the [G7sus4] ones who [G7] serve  
They [Csus2] only [C] get what [Cmaj7] they de[Am7]serve [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

And the [Csus2] rich rel[C]ationed [Cmaj7] home town [Am7] queen  
[Dsus2] marries [Dm] into [F+] what she [Dm] needs  
A [G7sus2] guaran[G7]tee of [G7sus4] compa[G7]ny  
And [Csus2] haven [C] for the [Cmaj7] elder[Am7]ly [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

Re[Eb]member those who win the game [Dm] lose the love they [G7] sought to gain  
In [Cm] debentures of [Fm] quality and [Cm] dubious in[Fm]tegrity  
Their [Ab] small town eyes will [G7] gape at you  
In [Cm] dull surprise when [Fm] payment due  
[Dm] Exceeds accounts received at [G7] seventeen [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7] x 2

To [Csus2] those of [C] us who [Cmaj7] knew the [Am7] pain  
Of [Dsus2] valen[Dm]tines that [F+] never [Dm] came  
And [G7sus2] those whose [G7] names were [G7sus4] never [G7] called  
When [Csus2] choosing [C] sides at [Cmaj7] basket[Am7]ball

It was [Csus2] long a[C]go and [Cmaj7] far a[Am7]way  
The [Dsus2] world was [Dm] younger [F+] than to[Dm]day  
And [G7sus2] dreams were [G7] all they [G7sus4] gave for [G7] free  
To [Csus2] ugly [C] duckling [Cmaj7] girls like [Am7] me [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7]

We all [Eb] play the game and when we dare to [Dm] cheat ourselves at [G7] solitaire  
In[Cm]venting lovers [Fm] on the phone re[Cm]penting other [Fm] lives unknown  
That [Ab] call and say come [G7] dance with me [Cm] and murmur vague ob[Fm]scenities  
[Dm] At ugly girls like me at [G7] seventeen [Csus2] [C] [Cmaj7] [Am7] [Cmaj7]

