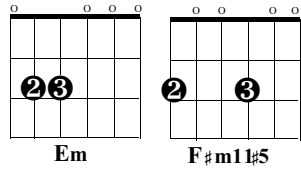


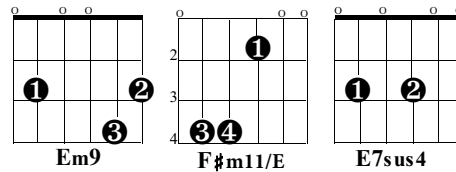
America - 'A Horse With No Name' (1)

Words and Music by **Dewey Bunnell** Transcribed by **Kevin Paluzzi**

Guitar 1



Guitar 2 (Twelve-String Acoustic)



Intro/Verse 1 (strum patterns will vary)

	Em	F#m11#5	Em	F#m11#5
1	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0
2	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0
3	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2
4	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0
5	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2
6	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2

	Em	F#m11#5	Em	F#m11#5
1	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0
2	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0
3	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2
4	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0
5	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2
6	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2

...first part of the journey... I was looking at all the life There were...

	Em	F#m11#5	Em	F#m11#5
1	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0
2	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 x 0 0 0 0
3	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2
4	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0
5	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 2 2 2
6	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 2 2

...plants and birds and rocks and things There was sand and hills and rings. The...

Guitar 2 (0:24 - strum patterns will vary)

	Em9	F#m11	E7sus4	Em9	F#m11	E7sus4
1	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0
2	3 3 3 3	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	3 3 3 3	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0
3	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2
4	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4 x 4 4 4 4	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4 x 4 4 4 4	0 0 0 0
5	2 2 2 2 2 2	4 4 x 4 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2	4 4 x 4 2 2 2	2 2 2 2
6	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0

...first thing I met was a fly with a buzz and the sky with no clouds The..

	Em9	F#m11	E7sus4	Em9	F#m11	E7sus4
1	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0
2	3 3 3 3	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	3 3 3 3	0 x 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0
3	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2
4	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4 x 4 4 4 4	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	4 4 x 4 4 4 4	0 0 0 0
5	2 2 2 2 2 2	4 4 x 4 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2 2	4 4 x 4 2 2 2	2 2 2 2
6	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0

...heat was hot and the ground was dry but the air was full of sound... (to Chorus) I've...

Chorus (0:39 - strummed same as Intro)

Em F#m11#5 Em F#m11#5
 I've been through the desert on a horse with no name. It felt to good to be out of the rain
 In the desert... you can't remember your name cuz' there ain't no one for to give you no pain.

'A Horse With No Name' - Performance Notes (1)

Several guitars are used on the original recording of *'A Horse With No Name'*, including six and twelve-string acoustics. The following sections will focus on the essential rhythm guitar parts for performances by one or two guitarists.

Intro/Chord Shapes

The famous two-chord opening (*'Em - F#m11#5'*) repeats throughout most of the song, being used for both the Verse and Chorus sections. Both chord shapes are fretted along the second fret in combination with the open strings. The 'Em' to 'F#m11#5' chord switch involves simply widening or 'kicking out' the second and third fingers along the second fret.

The unique 'F#m11#5' chord consists of five notes, which can be given five different chord names. Another popular name applied to this chord is 'D6add9/F#'.

Strum Pattern

Let the 'Em' bass note strummed on the first beat sustain. Slight percussive mutes ('x') are occasionally added in, but the emphasis should be to follow a consistent tempo (*'1-2-3-4 - 1-2-3-4'*). Following the arrows shown right, a suggested strum would be: *'down... down-up down-up-down-up down-up-x-up down-up-down'*.

Strum Pattern/Count Example

	Em				F#m11#5			
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	2	2	x	2
4	2	2	2	2	0	0	x	0
5	2	2	2	2	0	0	x	0
6	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
	↓	↓	↑	↓	↓	↑	↓	↑

Syncing Chords With Lyrics

Once a steady strum pattern is established, try to 'sync-up' vocals with strumming by 'landing' specific lyrics to their corresponding chords. For example, the lyrics *'first', 'looking', 'plants', 'heat', etc.* will 'land' on the first strum of the 'Em' chord (*shown below*).

Em	Em	Em
↓	↓	↓
On the first part of the journey, I was looking at all the life. There were plants and birds and rocks...		

The *'La... la'* section can be counted (*in 'la's'*) as *'2... 5... 3... 2'*. Later, the 'la' count changes to *'2... 1... 5... 3... 2'*.

Guitar - 2

At 0:24, a twelve-string acoustic part is added or layered over the main guitar rhythm from the Intro. The strum follows the same pattern and tempo as Guitar 1. Since many twelve-string guitars are tuned down to 'E \flat ', a capo can be used along the first fret with the same chord shapes shown *relative to capo*.

'Em9' is fretted similar to a 'D' chord shape, except the first finger frets the fifth string instead of the third string.

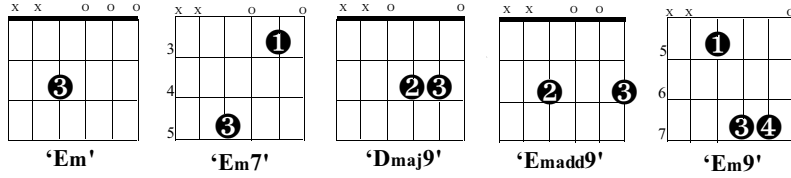
For a one-person performance, all or portions of the Guitar-2 section can be substituted for the Guitar-1 section in order to add some variation to the rhythm.

America - 'A Horse With No Name' (2)

Bridge/Guitar Solo

- Each line shows both rhythm (top - six-string acoustic) and lead (bottom - twelve-string acoustic) guitar parts.

Chord Shapes



Line 1 (2:04)

	Em	Em7	Dmaj9	Em9	Dmaj9
1	0	0	0 0 0	0 0	0 0 0 0 0
2	0	x 3	2 2 2	7 7 x	7 7 7 x
3	0	x 0	2 2 2	7 7 x	7 7 7 x
4	2	x 5	0 0 0	5 5 x	5 5 5 x
5					
6					

	Em	Em7	Dmaj9	Em9	Dmaj9
1	0 0 0 0 2	2 2 2 3 3	3/5 5 5 2 2 3 3	3 3 2 0 0 2	2 2 2 3 3 3/5 5 5/7 7 7 5
2					7
3					
4					
5					
6					

0 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 2/2 2 2 1 1 2 2 2 1 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 2/2 2 2/2 2 2 1 3

Line 2 (2:12)

	Em9	Dmaj9	Em9	Dmaj9
1	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	7 7 7 7 7 7 7	2 2 x 2 2 2 2
3	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 x 2 2 2 2	7 7 7 7 7 7 7	2 2 x 2 2 2 2
4	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	0 0 x 0 0 0 0	5 5 5 5 5 5 5	0 0 x 0 0 0 0
5				
6				

	Em9	Dmaj9	Em9	Dmaj9
1	121212 121212 121212 121212	121212 121212 121212 121212	121212 121212 121212 121212	121212 121212 121212 121212
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1.....

(2:16)

	Em9	Dmaj9
1	14 12 12 12 10 10 10 9 9 9 7	7 7 5 5 5 3 3 3 2 2 2 0 0
2		3
3		
4		
5		
6		

3 1 1 3 1 1 2 1 1 3 1 1 3 1 1 2 1 1 1 0 2 0

'A Horse With No Name' - Performance Notes (2)

Once the essential Verse and Chorus sections to 'A Horse With No Name' are learned (*Performance Notes-1*), there still remains the Bridge section, which includes the Guitar Solo as well as a new backing rhythm. Other challenges include putting together the complete arrangement as well as working on timing between lead and rhythm parts for performances by two guitarists. The following sections provide a step-by-step approach.

Bridge - Chords (2:04)

There are two different chord voicing options for the 'Em9' chord. On the original recording, a slide can be heard going up to play the 'Em9' along the fifth fret position.

For Line 2, the strum pattern essentially follows the Intro, only with less emphasis on muting for each 'Em9' section.

Bridge - Solo (2:04)

Played on a twelve-string acoustic, the solo follows the '**E' Dorian interval pattern** on the first string (*from open 'E': 'W-H-W-W-W-H'*). The 'E' Dorian scale produces a more serious or reflective tone, especially when phrasing around the 'E' root note on the open and twelfth frets of the first string.

For the lead guitar in Line 2, apply **tremolo picking** at 2:12 to the first string, counting in 'threes' four times each bar.

For the final two bars, a second lead guitar part is overdubbed at 2:16, featuring a descending riff going down the first string. For a performance by one lead guitarist, this section can be substituted for the original lead part.

Song Arrangement

Intro
Verse 1
Verse 2
Chorus
Verse 3
Chorus
Bridge/Solo
Verse 4
Verse 5
Chorus
(fade)

Lyrics

On the first part of the journey
I was looking at all the life.
There were plants and birds and rocks and things
There was sand and hills and rings
The first thing I met was a fly with a buzz
And the sky with no clouds
The heat was hot and the ground was dry
But the air was full of sound
I've been through the desert on a horse with no name
It felt good to be out of the rain
In the desert you can't remember your name
'cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain
La la... la la la la la... La la la... la la
La la... la la la la la... La la la... la la
After two days in the desert sun
My skin began to turn red
After three days in the desert fun
I was looking at a river bed
And the story you told of a river that flowed
Made me sad to think it was dead You see...

I've been through the desert on a horse with no name
It felt good to be out of the rain
In the desert you can't remember your name
'cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain
La la... la... la la la la la... La la la... la la
La la... la... la la la la la... La la la... la la
After nine days I let the horse run free
Cause the desert had turned to sea
There were plants and birds and rock and things
There was sand and hills and rings
The ocean is a desert with its life underground
And the perfect disguise above
Under the cities lies a heart made of ground
But the humans will give no love - You see..
I've been through the desert on a horse with no name.
It felt good to be out of the rain
In the desert, you can't remember your name
'Cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain.
La la... la... la la la la la... La la la... la la
La la... la... la la la la la... La la la... la la