

We Didn't Start the Fire

Billy Joel

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Strum Pattern - Same throughout whole song

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D D D U D U

G D Am C 4x

G D
Harry Truman, Doris Day, Red China, Johnnie Ray
Am C
South Pacific, Walter Winch ell, Joe DiMaggio
G D
Joe McCarthy, Richard Nixon, Studebaker, television
Am C
North Korea, South Korea, Marilyn Monroe

G D Am C

G D
Rosenberg s, H-bomb, Sugar Ray, Panmunjom
Am C
Brando, "The King and I" and "The Catcher in the Rye"
G D
Eisenhower, vaccine, England's got a new queen
Am C
Marciano, Liberace, Santayana goodbye

[Chorus]

G D
We didn't start the fire;
Am
It was always burning,
C
Since the world's been turning
G D
We didn't start the fire
Am
No we didn't light it,
C
But we tried to fight it

G D
Joseph Stalin, Malenkov, Nasser and Prokofiev
Am C
Rockefeller, Campanella, Communist Bloc
G D
Roy Kahn, Juan Peron, Toscanini, Dacron
Am C
Dien Bien Phu falls, "Rock Around the Clock"
G D
Einstein, James Dean, Brooklyn's got a winning team
Am C
Davy Crockett, Peter Pan, Elvis Presley, Disneyland
G D
Bardot, Budapest, Alabama, Khrushchev
Am C
Princess Grace, "Peyton Place", trouble in the Suez

[Chorus]

G D
Little Rock, Pasternak, Mickey Mantle, Kerouac
Am C
Sputnik, Chou En-Lai, "Bridge on the River Kwai"
G D
Lebanon, Charles de Gaulle, California baseball
Am C
Stark weather, homicide, children of thalidomide
G D
Buddy Holly, "Ben Hur", space monkey, Mafia
Am C
Hula hoops, Castro, Edsel is a no-go
G D
U-2, Syngman Rhee, payola and Kennedy
Am C
Chubby Checker, "Psycho", Belgians in the Congo

[Chorus]

G D
Hemingway, Eichmann, "Stranger in a Strange Land"
Am C
Dylan, Berlin, Bay of Pigs invasion
G D
"Lawrence of Arabia", British Beatle mania
Am C
Ole Miss, John Glenn, Liston beats Patterson
G D
Pope Paul, Malcolm X, British politician sex
Am C
JFK, blown away, what else do I have to say

[Chorus]

G D
Birth control, Ho Chi Minh, Richard Nixon back again
Am C
Moon shot, Woodstock, Watergate, punk rock
G D
Begin, Reagan, Palestine, terror on the airline
Am C
Ayatollah's in Iran, Russians in Afghanistan
G D
"Wheel of Fortune", Sally Ride, heavy metal, suicide
Am C
Foreign debts, homeless vets, AIDS, crack, Bernie Goetz
G D
Hypodermics on the shores, China's under martial law
Am C
Rock and roller cola wars, I can't take it anymore

[Chorus]