

"BALLAD OF A DYING MAN" by FATHER JOHN MISTY

This is my favorite of the singles we've heard from "Pure Comedy" so far, so I figured I'd take a minute to transcribe the chords.

In typical Josh fashion, the guitar is in D tuning (DGCFA). There are a couple times in the song where it sounds like he might even be downtuned to Db, but I haven't seen him do that yet, so we'll stick with D for now.

NOTE: I've copied the lyrics from Genius.com. Since the album hasn't been released yet, I can't verify their accuracy, but they sound pretty good to me.

F x000                     •       • 	Fmaj7 x000                   • •         	F7 x_000         • •         •         	Bb x_o_o         •     •     •         
F/A x_oo_o         • •                   	Gm xo_o_o         •     ••               	Gm7 xo_o_o         •     ••             • 	Abdim7 x_o_x         •     •   •           
Dm o_ooo           ••                   	Eb ••     ••     •     ••         	Am x____           •       •         •     ••	Dbmaj-5 5fr x____x           •             •         ••
5fr Db x____           •       •               ••	G7 xo_o_o               •   •           	C x_o____               •   •         • 	Ab x____         •               ••     

[Intro]

The intro is the same chord sequence as the chorus. I like to accent my strumming in a way that mimics the high notes of the piano part. On the second F in the sequence, try moving your pinky up to the fifth fret of the high D string (3x0005) and back down to the third fret (3x0003) in order to follow the piano. Throughout the song, I also alternate between Gm and Gm7 (which I've marked in parentheses) toward the end

of phrases in order to get the higher F-note of the keys, even though it sounds like Josh plays it as a straight Gm.

F Fmaj7 F7 F Bb F/A Gm Abdim7 Gm (Gm7)

[Verse 1]

F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
Naturally the dying man wonders to himself:  
F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
Has commentary been more lucid than anybody else?  
Am F7  
And had he successively beaten back the rising tide  
Dm Dbmaj-5  
Of idiots, dilettantes, and fools  
Abdim7 Gm  
On his watch while he was alive  
F Abdim7 Db Dm  
Lord, just a little more time

[Chorus 1]

F Fmaj7 F7 F  
Oh, in no time at all  
Bb F/A Gm  
This'll be the distant past  
G7 Gm (Gm7)  
Ooh

[Verse 2]

F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
So says the dying man once I'm in the box  
F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
Just think of all the overrated hacks running amok  
Am F7  
And all of the pretentious, ignorant voices that will go unchecked  
Dm Dbmaj-5  
The homophobes, hipsters, and 1%  
Abdim7 Gm  
The false feminists he'd managed to detect  
F Abdim7 Db Dm  
Oh, who will critique them once he's left?

[Chorus 2]

F Fmaj7 F7 F  
Oh, in no time at all  
Bb F/A C  
This'll be the distant past

[Bridge]

Ab C F Bb  
What he'd give for one more day to rate and analyze  
Gm C F Bb  
The world made in his image as of yet to realize  
Dm Gm C  
What a mess to leave behind

[Verse 3]

F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
Eventually the dying man takes his final breath  
F Dm Eb Gm (Gm7)  
But first checks his news feed to see what he's 'bout to miss  
Am F7  
And it occurs to him a little late in the game  
Dm Dbmaj-5  
We leave as clueless as we came  
Abdim7 Gm  
From rented heavens to the shadows in the cave  
F Abdim7 Db Dm  
We'll all be wrong someday

[Outro]

While Josh sings the "Oh oh oh" bit and the choir comes in, just repeat this sequence until the end of the song:

Bb F/A Gm (Gm7)