

LOVER'S CROSS (Jim Croce)

Written by Jim Croce in the key of C in 4/4 time
Released on the album: [I Got A Name](#) (1973)
Fingerstyle version for single acoustic guitar
Lover's Cross on [Wikipedia](#) | [YouTube](#)

thumb: x Hammer on: h Bend up:) Play or don't: []
index: a Pull off: p Bend down: (Break: p
dirty: b Slide up: / Grab but don't pick: !
ring: c Slide down: \ Staccato: :
pinky: d Arpeggio: ~~~ Mute: m

INTRO (C - G/B - Am - Dm - G)

```
e-----1a-----3d-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----| x - a - bc - x  
g-----0-----2b-----2b---| x - a - bc - a ( 3x )  
D-----0-----0-----|  
A---3c-----2b-----0-----|  
E-----3c-----3c-----| repeat tab 1x  
    <----- Hint ----->
```

1ST VERSE

... Guess that it was bound to happen ...
... was just a matter of time ... but now I've ...
... come to my decision and it's ...

```
e-----1a-----3d-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----| x - a - bc - x  
g-----0-----2b-----2b---| x - a - bc - a ( 3x )  
D-----0-----0-----|  
A---3c-----2b-----0-----|  
E-----3c-----3c-----| repeat tab 2x
```

... one of the painful kind ... 'cause now it ...

```
e-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a---| x - a - bc ( 2x )  
g-----0-----0-----| x - a - b - c - b - a  
D---!-----| x - a - bc - a  
A---3c-----2b-----|  
E-----3c-----3c-----|  
    <----- 3/4 time ----->    <----- 3/4 time ----->    <-- 2/4 time ->  
    <----- Hint ----->
```

... seems that you wanted a martyr ... just a ...

```
e-----1a-----3d-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----0-----| x - a - bc - a ( 2x )  
g-----2b-----2b-----0-----| x - a - b - xc - b - a - x - a  
D---3d-----|  
A---!-----3c-----| !: grab 3c  
E-----3c-----3c-----|
```

... regular guy wouldn't do ... but baby ...

```
e-----1a-----0-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----| x - a - bc - a ( 4x )  
g-----2c-----2c-----0-----|  
D---!3d-----2b-----|  
A-----| !: keep 2b pressed  
E-----3c-----3c-----|
```

... I can't hang upon no lover's cross for ...

```
e-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----1a-----1a---| x - abc ( 4x )  
g-----0-----0-----2b-----2b---| x - a - bc - a ( 2x )  
D-----0-----0-----|  
A---3c-----2b-----0-----|  
E-----3c-----1a-----3c-----|  
    <- full barré ->
```

... you ...

```
e-----0-----1a-----0-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----0-----0-----| x - a - b - xc - b - a - x - a ( 2x )  
g-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----|  
D---!-----2b-----0-----|  
A---3c-----[3c]-----| !: grab 2b  
E-----3c-----[3c]-----|
```

2ND VERSE (same tab as 1st verse but this time passing into the chorus)

... I really got to hand it to you ...
... 'cause girl you really tried ... but for ...
... ev'ry time that we spent laughing there were ...
... two times that I cried ... and you were ...
... trying to make me your martyr ... and that's the ...
... one thing I just couldn't do ... 'cause baby ...
... I can't hang upon no lover's cross for ...
... you ... 'Cause ...

```
e-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:  
b-----1a-----1a-----1a-----1a---| x - a - b - xc - b - a - x - a ( 2x )  
g-----0-----0-----3d-----3d-----3d---|  
D-----2b-----2b-----|  
A---3c-----[3c]-----3c-----[3c]-----|  
E-----|
```

CHORUS (F - G - Am - Em - F - C - Dm - G)

... tables are meant for turning and ...

```

e-----1a-----3d-----|-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a-----0-----|-----1a-----0-----| x - a - bc - a ( 4x )
g-----2b-----2b-----0-----0-----|-----2c-----2c-----0-----0-----|
D-----|-----!-----|-----|-----|
A-----|-----0-----|-----|-----| !: grab 2b
E--1a-----3c-----|-----0-----|
<- full barré ->

```

... people are bound to change ...

```

e-----1a-----0-----|-----1a-----3d-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a-----1a-----|-----3d-----0-----| x - a - bc - a ( 4x )
g-----2b-----2b-----0-----0-----|-----2b-----2b-----0-----0-----|
D-----|-----!-----|-----|-----|
A-----3c-----|-----|-----|-----| !: grab 2b
E--1a-----3c-----|-----|-----|-----|
<- full barré ->

```

... and bridges are meant for burning when the ...

```

e-----1a-----3d-----|-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a-----0-----|-----1a-----0-----| x - a - bc - a ( 4x )
g-----2b-----2b-----0-----0-----|-----2c-----2c-----0-----0-----|
D-----|-----!-----|-----|-----|
A-----|-----0-----|-----|-----| !: grab 2b
E--1a-----3c-----|-----0-----|
<- full barré ->

```

... people and mem'ries they join aren't the ...

```

e-----1a-----1a-----|-----0-----0-----|-----1a-----1a-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a-----1a-----|-----1a-----1a-----|-----3d-----3d-----| x - abc - a ~~~ ( 3x )
g-----2b-----2b-----|-----0-----0-----|-----2b-----2b-----|
D-----3d-----3d-----|-----!-----2b-----|-----0-----0-----|
A--!-----3c-----|-----2b-----|-----0-----| !: grab 3c & 2b
E--1a-----|-----3c-----|-----|-----|
 ¼           ¼           ¼
<- full barré ->
<----- 2/4 time ----->

```

... same ... So I ...

```

e-----3d-----|-----1a-----| picking pattern:
b-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----| x - a - b - xc - b - a - x - a ( 2x )
g-----0-----0-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----0-----0-----|
D-----|-----|-----|-----|
A-----|-----|-----|-----|
E--3c-----[3c]-----|-----3c-----[3c]-----|

```

3RD VERSE (same tab as 2nd verse but this time passing into the outro)

... hope that you can find another who can ...
 ... take what I could not ...
 ... he'll have to be a super guy or ...
 ... maybe a super god ... 'cause I ...
 ... never was much of a martyr before and I ...
 ... ain't 'bout to start nothin' new ... and baby ...
 ... I can't hang upon no lover's cross for ...

OUTRO

... you ...

```

e-----0-----0-----|-----0-----0-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a-----1a-----|-----1a-----3d-----| x - a - bc - a ( 4x )
g-----0-----0-----0-----0-----|-----2b-----2b-----2b-----2b-----|
D--!-----|-----|-----|-----|
A--3c-----2b-----|-----0-----|-----|-----|
E-----|-----2a-----|

```

```

e-----0-----1a-----|-----1a-----| picking pattern:
b-----0-----1a-----|-----3d-----| x - a - bc - a ( 3x )
g-----0-----0-----2b-----2b-----|-----0-----0-----|
D-----|-----|-----|-----|
A-----|-----|-----|-----|
E--3c-----1a-----|-----3c-----| ritardando
      <- full barré ->

```

Finish the song with a strummed C/G chord

ADDITIONAL REMARK

The INTRO actually starts in F
The tab below is an example

```
e-----1a-----0-----|-----0-----| picking pattern:
b-----1a---1a-----1a-----3d-----|-----1a-----3d-----| a ~~~ b - a - b - x - a - bc - a
g-----2b-----2b-----1a-----0---|-----2b-----2b-----2b-----2b---| x - a - bc - a - xb - a - x - a
D-----3d-----!-----|-----0-----|
A---3c-----|---0-----| !: press 1a & 2b ( F, E7 )
E---!-----0-----|-----2a-----|
<----- Hint -----> <----- Hint ----->
```

```
e-----1a-----|-----1a-----| picking pattern:
b---0-----1a-----|---0-----1a-----3d-----| xb - a - x - a - x - a - bc - a
g---0-----0-----2b-----2b---|-----0-----0-----0-----0---| xb - a - xb - a - xb - a - xc - a
D-----0-----|-----|
A-----|-----|
E---3c-----1a-----|---3c-----3c-----3c-----3c-----| continue with C/G
-----> < full barré > <----- Hint ----->
```

```
-----1a-----|
--0-----1a-----3d-----|
-----0-----0-----0-----0---|
-----0-----|
--3c-----2b-----|
```