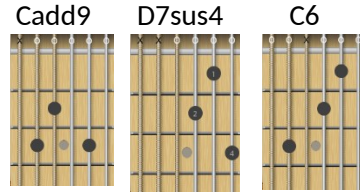


# At Seventeen (Janis Ian)



**INTRO:** Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C (x2)

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C D7sus4 Dm7 A Dm  
I learned the truth at seven-teen, That love was meant for beauty queens.

G7  
And high school girls with clear skinned smiles,

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6  
Who married young and then re-tired.

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C D7sus4 Dm7 A Dm  
The Valen-tines I never knew, The Friday nights cha-rades of youth.

G7 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6  
Were spent on one more beautiful; At seven-teen, I learned the truth.

Eb Dm7 G7  
And those of us with ravaged faces, Lacking in the social graces,

Cm7 Fm7 Cm7 Fm7  
Desperately re-mained at home, Inventing lovers on the phone.

Ab G7 Cm7 Fm7  
Who called and say; "come dance with me", And murmured vague ob-scenities.

Dm7 G7  
It isn't all it seems, at seventeen.

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C D7sus4 Dm7 A Dm  
A brown eyed girl in hand-me-downs, Who's name I never could pro-nounce,

G7  
Said; "pity please, the ones who serve,

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6  
They only get what they de-serve.

Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C D7sus4 Dm7 A Dm  
The rich re-lationed home-town queen, Marries into what she needs.

G7 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6 Cadd9 C Cmaj7 C6  
A guarantee of company, And haven for the elder----ly".

**Eb** **Dm7** **G7**  
 Re-member those who win the game, lose the love they sought to gain.  
**Cm7** **Fm7** **Cm7** **Fm7**  
 In debentures of quality, and dubious in-tegrity.  
**Ab** **G7** **Cm7** **Fm7**  
 Their small town eyes will gape at you; In dull surprise, when payment due;  
**Dm7** **G7**  
 Exceeds accounts received, at seventeen.

**Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C** **D7sus4** **Dm7** **A** **Dm**  
 To those of us who know the pain, Of valen -tines that never came.  
**G7**  
 And those whose names were never called,  
**Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C6** **Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C6**  
 When choosing sides at basket-ball.  
**Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C** **D7sus4** **Dm7** **A** **Dm**  
 It was long a-go and far a- way, The world was younger than to-day.  
**G7** **Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C6** **Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C6**  
 And dreams were all they gave for free, To ugly duckling girls like me.

**Eb** **Dm7** **G7**  
 We all play the game and when we dare, to cheat ourselves at solitaire.  
**Cm7** **Fm7** **Cm7** **Fm7**  
 Inventing lovers on the phone, re-penting other lives unknown.  
**Ab** **G7** **Cm7** **Fm7**  
 That call and say; "come dance with me", And murmur vague ob-scenities,  
**Dm7** **G7**  
 At ugly girls like me; at seventeen.

**OUTRO:** **Cadd9** **C** **Cmaj7** **C6** (x2)