

Sugar Mountain – Neil Young

Tuning: Standard

Tempo: NA (it's even MORE confusing)

Strumming Pattern: D, D, DUDU

This one SEEMS very confusing, but I'll do my best to help you with it. The only real confusing part is how long the G chord is held. If you follow EXACTLY where I placed the chords you'll do fine. The Dm – G part feels really weird, but it's not too bad once you practice a few times. Some of the openings in the song featured Willie Nelson playing his usual kicka\*\* weird guitar stuff, so I left that in there to keep from throwing you off any more than could already happen in this song. There's a reason this song has been covered DOZENS of times – it's crazy and fun to play once you get it down. There's just that certain "feel" of it, which reminds me of Willie Nelson a lot in the way he plays. Specifically, at least in the version I watched, there is a part where Young sings "and it's your first cigarette..." near the end. He actually holds the G 'double time' – or in other words – two measures of G. This of course is optional. I did it in the video, and this was where Willie did a few little neat guitar tricks. I have NO CLUE what he was doing there, but it was pretty cool nonetheless. Maybe you could add your own little something there if you want.

I've also included "tab" versions of the intro chords. We've seen the C/G before. It's just a C chord with a bass note of G on the low E string. The Gmaj13 (no 3<sup>rd</sup>) means just that. It's a Gmaj13 without a 3<sup>rd</sup> step interval. However, looking closely you will see that it is basically the C/G moved to the fifth fret. It can also be called an Em11 (no 5<sup>th</sup>) but I thought that terminology would be confusing, so I used the "G" concept. Also in the intro there is a quick change from G – C – G. I recommend using the G that I have provided with the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger root on the Low E.

Chords Used:

The diagrams show the following chord structures:

- G:** Fretboard with open strings G, B, D, G, B, G. Fingering: 3 on G, 2 on B, 4 on G.
- C:** Fretboard with open strings E, C, E, G, C, E. Fingering: 3 on E, 2 on C, 1 on G.
- F:** Fretboard with open strings F, C, F, A, C, F. Fingering: 1 on F, 3 on C, 4 on F, 2 on A, 1 on C, 1 on F.
- Dm:** Fretboard with open strings A, D, A, D, F. Fingering: 1 on A, 2 on D, 3 on A.

Gmaj13 (no 3<sup>rd</sup>)      C (or technically C/G)

```

e----0-----0-----
b----3-----1-----
g----0-----0-----
d----4-----2-----
a----5-----3-----
E----5-----3-----
    
```

Intro: Gmaj13 (no 3<sup>rd</sup>) - C/G (x3) then G - C - G

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G \*(hold G additional measure)  
you're leavin' there too soon.

(G) F  
It's so noisy at the fair...  
(F) G  
but all your friends are there...  
(G) F  
and the candy floss you had...  
(F) G  
and your mother and your dad.

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G \*(hold G additional measure)  
you're leavin' there too soon.

(G) F  
There's a girl just down the aisle...  
(F) G  
oh, to turn to her and smile...  
(G) F  
you can hear the words she wrote...  
(F) G  
as you read the hidden note.

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G \*(hold G additional measure)  
you're leavin' there too soon.

(G) F  
Now you're underneath the stairs...  
(F) G  
and you're givin' back some glares...  
(G) F  
to the people who you met...  
(F) G \*(hold double - two measures)  
and it's your first cigarette.

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G \*(hold G additional measure)  
you're leavin' there too soon.

(G) F  
Now you say you're leavin' home...  
(F) G  
'cause you want to be alone...  
(G) F  
ain't it funny how you feel...  
(F) G  
when you're findin' out it's real?

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G  
you're leavin' there too soon.

(G) F  
Oh, to live on Sugar Mountain...  
G F  
with the barkers and the colored balloons.  
G F  
You can't be twenty on Sugar Mountain  
Dm G  
though you're thinkin' that you're leavin' there too soon,  
Dm G  
you're leavin' there too soon.