

## Tales of Brave Ulysses

Tempo: 115 BPM

Because this song is a full song study it's a bit tricky to understand. I will address each guitar part here.

There are two guitars that play here, plus the bass. I am going to treat Guitar 1 as the 'lead' guitar and Guitar 2 as the rhythm guitar. However, both guitar parts actually interchange licks/lead/ so it's confusing.

**Guitar 2 is the guitar you SEE in the actual *performance* video.**

Guitar 2 begins with a simple D chord held as a whole note. You don't play anything again until you reach the 'pre-verse.' The bass line plays immediately after the D chord is held as a whole note.

A technicality: Guitar 2 actually plays two little riffs that you will hear prior to the pre-verse, but instead of doing that, and to avoid confusion, I played those two little riffs with Guitar 1.

Basically, all you do in the 'intro' with Guitar 2 is play a D chord and hold it until you reach the pre-verse.

Once you reach the pre-verse you will be playing some bass lines really for TWO measures. In the video I have them labeled as 0(D) – 3(A) – 2(A) – 1(A), which really means:

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a standard five-line staff with a treble clef. It contains a single whole note chord, which is a D major chord (D-A-D-A-D-A). The bottom staff is a guitar-specific staff with a treble clef and a dashed line above it. It is labeled 'Gtr II' and contains a sequence of four notes: an open D string (0), a third fret note on the A string (3), a second fret note on the A string (2), and a first fret note on the A string (1). The notes are spaced out to represent a four-measure phrase.

0(D) refers to open note on the D string.

3(A) refers to third fret note on the A string.

2(A) refers to second fret note on the A string.

1(A) refers to first fret note on the A string.

This actually sets up the overall 'rhythm' of mostly the entire song.

The next part is a bit different, but uses the same concept. Here is the next part:

0(D) – 5/3(A) – 3/2(A) – 2/1(A) – 3

The same idea applies, where the “/” indicates a slide to the next note.

Once you’ve played that for two measures we go back to the rhythm theme.

The Rhythm:

This is the rhythm theme. This part is just D – C - G/B – Bb

Really the prime focus is those same bass notes as from before. Because almost all of this progression uses root notes/bass notes and open string notes it shouldn’t be hard to stay in time with the song. You will play this all the way up to the bridge (which begins on A).

The Bridge:

The bridge is just A – D – C with A being held longer and the D to C as a quick change. You play this twice for the rhythm and then go directly back into the verse. After this verse you go BACK into the bridge.

After THAT, you go back into the pre-verse, but you don’t play anything. You begin playing again during the NEXT verse, which is back to the original rhythm theme. (I know it’s confusing, but I’ll give you a rundown of each part in a moment.)



Guitar 1 Riff 1:

The image shows the musical notation for Guitar 1 Riff 1. It consists of two staves. The top staff is a standard musical staff with a treble clef, showing a sequence of notes: a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with six strings. The notes correspond to the top staff: G4 (2nd fret, 6th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), C5 (3rd fret, 3rd string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), and G4 (2nd fret, 6th string). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, and 3 above the notes.

This part comes in IMMEDIATELY on the fourth measure. You'll hear the bass line play once and then you need to bring this part in.

Guitar 1 Riff 2:

The image shows the musical notation for Guitar 1 Riff 2. It consists of two staves. The top staff is a standard musical staff with a treble clef, showing a sequence of notes: a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with six strings. The notes correspond to the top staff: G4 (0th fret, 6th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), C5 (3rd fret, 3rd string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), and G4 (0th fret, 6th string). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 0, 2, 2, 1, 3, 3 above the notes. A 'H' marking is present below the first note.

This part comes in right before the pre-verse. It's a little awkward at first, but it gets easier after a few tries.

Guitar 1 Riff 3:

The image shows the musical notation for Guitar 1 Riff 3. It consists of two staves. The top staff is a standard musical staff with a treble clef, showing a sequence of notes: a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with six strings. The notes correspond to the top staff: G4 (0th fret, 6th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), C5 (3rd fret, 3rd string), B4 (2nd fret, 4th string), A4 (2nd fret, 5th string), and G4 (0th fret, 6th string). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 3, 2, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 3 above the notes. 'H' markings are present below the first, second, and sixth notes.

This riff comes in on the **pre-verse** in the second measure. After you hear the "0-3" from guitar 2 you rest a quarter rest (where the "2" is played) and then play this riff.

Guitar 1 Riff 4:

D C G/B B<sup>b</sup>

7 7 5 5 4 4 3 3

This starts at the rhythm part of the pre-verse (D – C - G/B – Bb) and then continues through the entire verse – up until the bridge. The bridge is below:

Guitar 1 Bridge Riffs (Lead)

Gtr I Full

sl. P P P

This riff is played on the A chord and continues below:

A D C

Full Full

P P P

As you'll see, this riff continues from the previous riff and then ends on the D – C as noted in the rhythm. After this four measure riff, you go back to the verse theme.

THEN...this part is played during the next bridge:

A musical notation snippet for a riff during chord A. The top staff shows a treble clef with notes. The middle staff shows a bass clef with fret numbers: 7, 8, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 9, 10. A 'Full' label is above the first two notes. The bottom staff shows a rhythm line with 'P H P sl.'.

This riff is played during the A.

A musical notation snippet for a bridge section. The top staff shows a treble clef with notes and chord labels: D, C, A. The middle staff shows a bass clef with fret numbers: 10, 8, 5, 8, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 7, 7, 5, 7, 0, 8, 9, 8, 8, 10, 8, 9, 7. The bottom staff shows a rhythm line with 'sl. P H P P H P sl. H sl.'.

Here you move into the D – C and then back to A.

A musical notation snippet for the end of the bridge. The top staff shows a treble clef with notes and chord labels: D, C. The middle staff shows a bass clef with fret numbers: 5, 7, 7, 5, 5, 5, 5, 8, 7, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5. A 'Full' label is above the 8th note.

This ends the bridge. After this part, you move into another pre-verse/interlude. This part is pretty easy:

Start off with the whole note on the seventh fret and then end this two measure run with the 5 to 7 hammer-ons.

You then play the fifth fret note on the A string in the same way you played the seventh fret note on the G string. End this section with the hammer-on of 5 to 7 and then 5.

Next, it's BACK to the verse theme again (7-5-4-3)

Now, there's NOTHING to play until you get past the 3/4 time change from the rhythm. Once you get past that, you'll begin another series of lead guitar.

Here it is:



Here is the 'craziness' that I was referring to. This is NOT easy, but there are no real movements so it's not too bad once you get used to it. Again – it's hard on an acoustic. End the song on the 12<sup>th</sup> fret note on the D string. That would be a D note as an octave. Let it ring. That's it!

### The Bass Part:

I made the bass super easy to understand. It creates a gallop, which MIGHT throw you off a little when listening to the actual video. It's a little hard to differentiate the bass from the rhythm. Here is the bass line:

### Overall Bass Line

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a guitar fretboard diagram below it. The staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The fretboard diagram shows the following fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 3, 3, 3, 2, 0, 2, 1, 1, 1.

What you see above is the overall theme of the bass line.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a guitar fretboard diagram below it. The staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The fretboard diagram shows the following fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3.

This part is played during the bridge where you begin with A. Because the bass line is A – D – C, all you have to notice is that an open string note on the D string produces D and a third fret note on the A string produces C. Of course, an open A string note produces an A.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a guitar fretboard diagram below it. The staff contains a single note on the D string. The fretboard diagram shows the number 5 on the A string.

This part is played on the time changes. Believe it or not – that is the entire bass line.

**Song Structure:**

Intro

Pre-Verse

Verse

Bridge

Verse

Bridge

Pre-Verse

Verse (then 3/4 time change)

Verse Theme (x3) with Solo 1 (then 3/4 time change back)

Verse Theme (to end) with Solo 2

The Song:

**Intro: D**

**Pre-Verse**

0(D)                      3(A)                      2(A)                      1(A)  
You thought the leading winter would bring you down forever  
0(D)                      5/3(A)                      3/2(A)                      2/1/3(A)  
But you rode upon a steamer to the violence of the sun.

(D - C - G/B - Bb x2)

**Verse**

D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
And the colors of the sea blind your eyes with trembling mermaids  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
And you touch the distant beaches with tales of brave Ulysses  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
How his naked ears were tortured by the sirens sweetly singing  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
While the sparkling waves are calling you to kiss the white laced lips

**Bridge**    A                      D C | A                      D C  
\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* | \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**Verse**

D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
And you see a girls brown body dancing through the turquoise  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
And her footprints make you follow where the sky loves the sea  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
And when your fingers find her she drowns you in her body  
D                      C                      G/B                      Bb  
Carving deep blue ripples in the tissues of your mind

**Bridge**    A                      D C | A                      D C  
\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* | \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**Pre-Verse**

(no chords)

The tiny purple fishes run laughing through your fingers  
And you want to take her with you to the hard land of the winter

**Verse**

          D                  C                  G/B                  Bb  
Her name is Aphrodite and she rides a crimson shell  
          D                  C                  G/B                  Bb  
And you know you cannot leave her for you touched the distant sands  
          D                  C                  G/B                  Bb  
With tales of brave Ulysses how his naked ears were tortured  
          D                  C                  G/B          Bb (3/4 D5 - D - C5)  
By the sirens sweetly singing

**Solo 1:**(play verse theme of D - C - G/B - Bb x3) then - 5 - 7 during 3/4 change)

**Solo 2:**(same thing with verse chords - end on D)

**WHEW!**