INDEPENDENCE DAY

As recorded by Elliott Smith

(From the 1998 Album XO)

Transcribed by JB *Words and Music by Elliott Smith*

Performance Notes

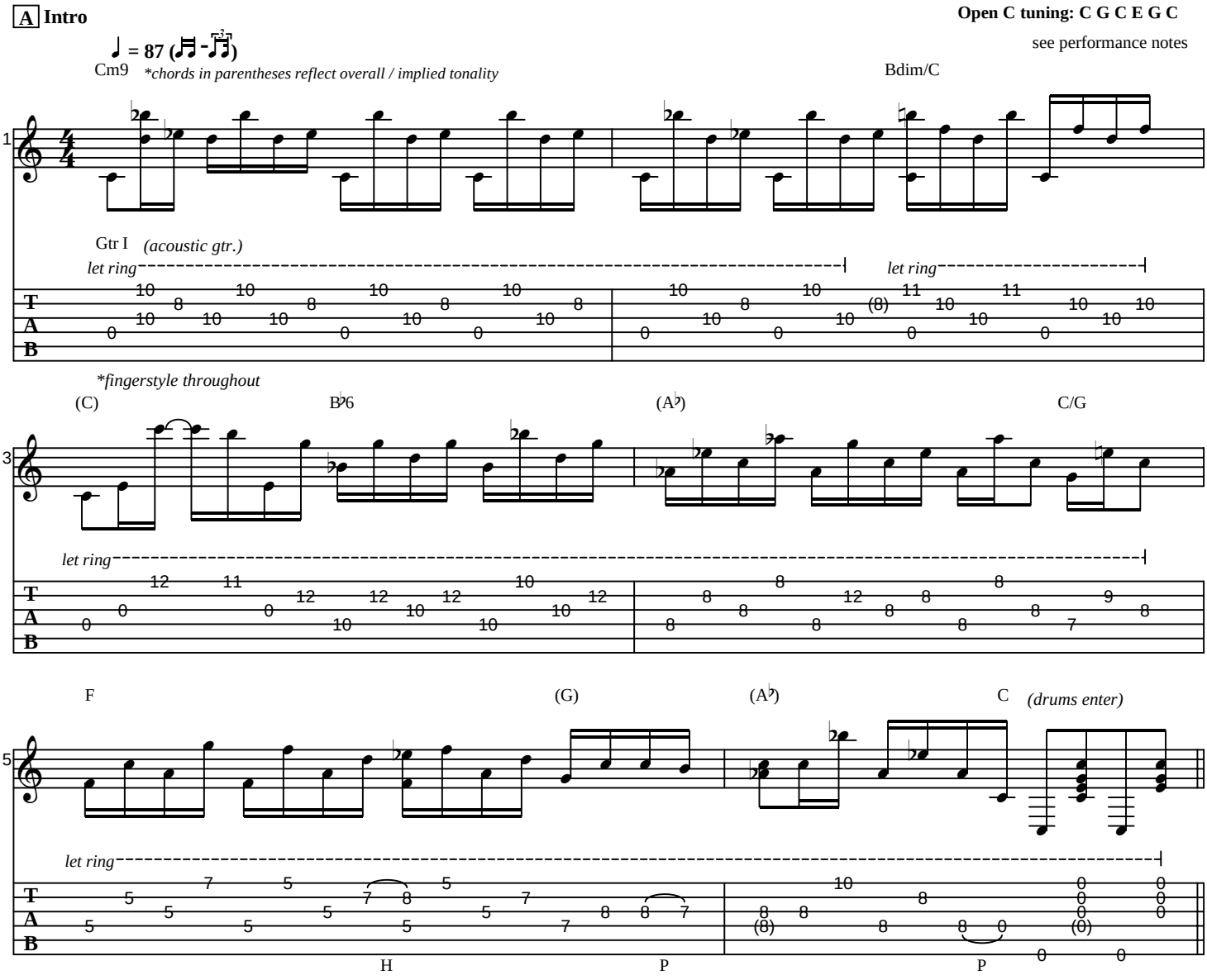
Open C tuning: C G C E G C, (which, if you think about it, is really just the typical open D tuning transposed 1 full step down.)

The chord names I put in aren't relative to the tuning, they represent the actual tonailty of the notes... I wanted to keep continuity with the keyboard score, and it makes it much easier for someone who wants to strum along without tuning their guitar way down to do so.

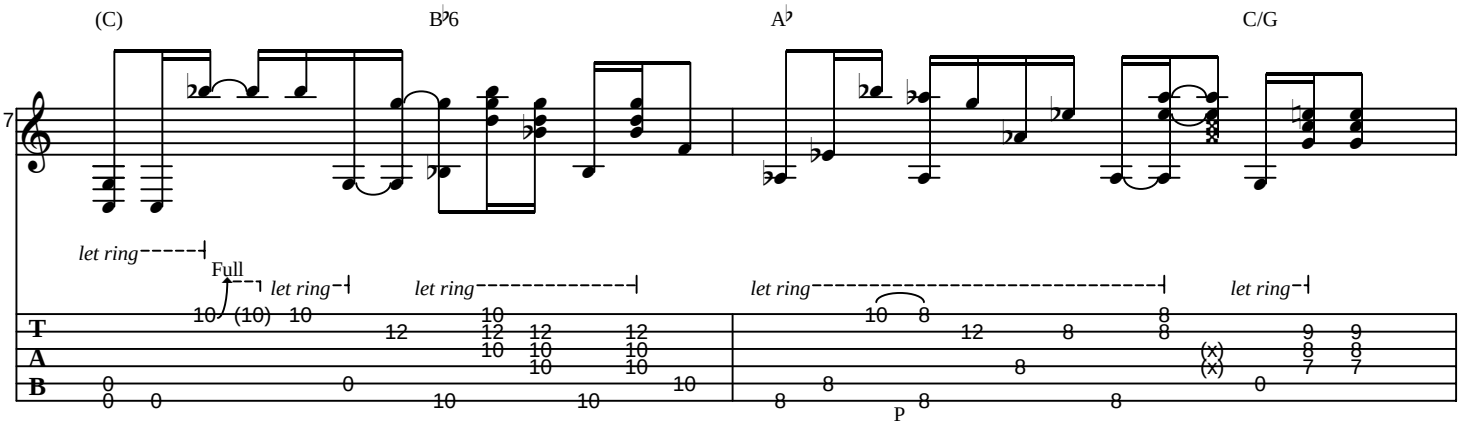
This song is played entirely with the fingers, and this is how to make it look a lot less complicated:

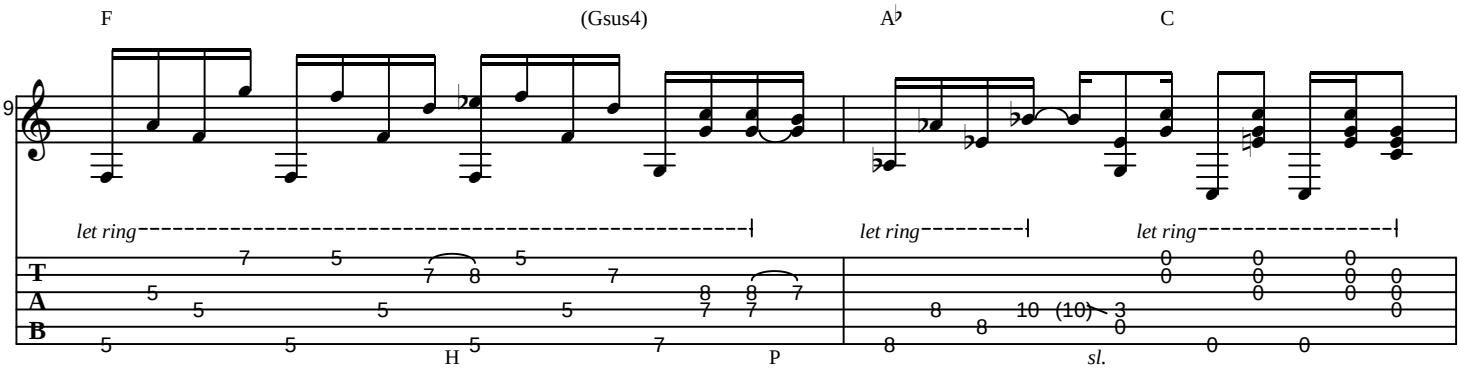
-Notice that for the left hand, after the first two chords (Cm9 and Bdim/C), Elliott mainly has the first finger barring across a fret while the remaining fingers play the melody or add color notes.

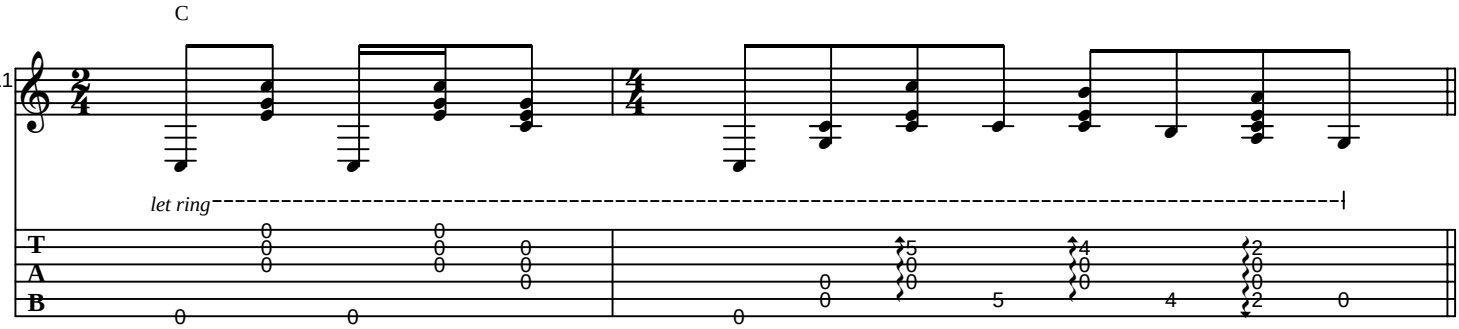
-After the first half of the intro, the notes aren't picked deliberately, so just use the tab mainly as a guide. The thumb hits the low notes (usually on the downbeats), while the other strings are strummed loosely with the index and middle fingers.



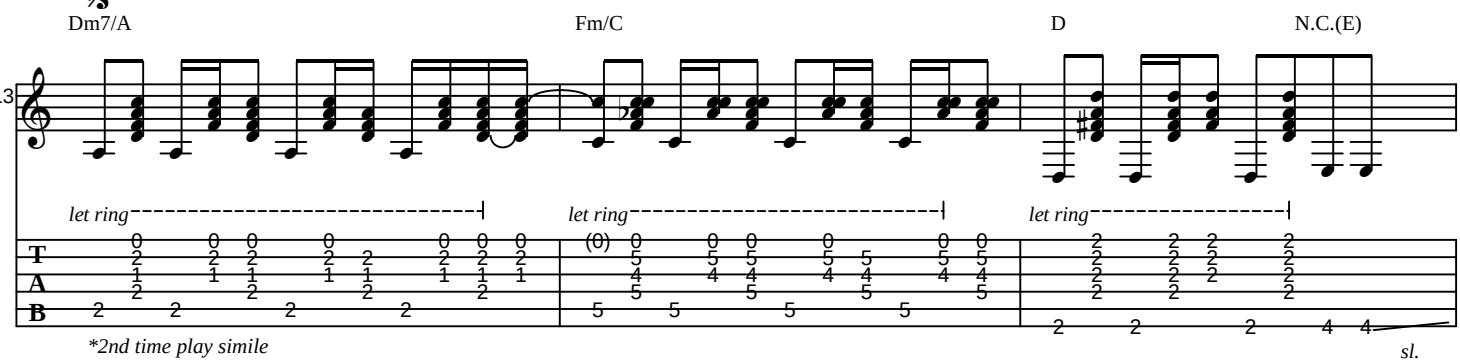
1998 Spent Bullets BMI

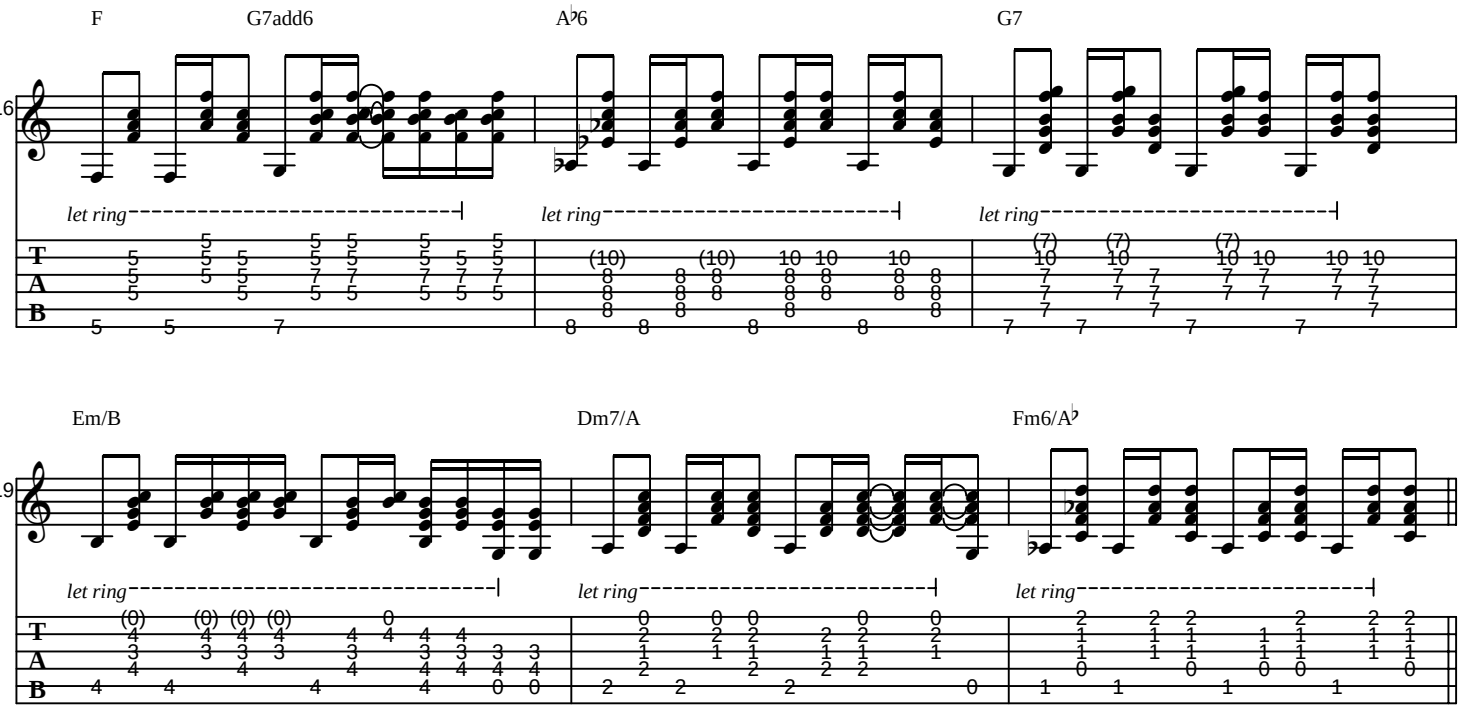

(C)
B♭6
A♭
C/G
let ring
Full
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
P


F
(Gsus4)
A♭
C
let ring
let ring
let ring
H
P
sl.

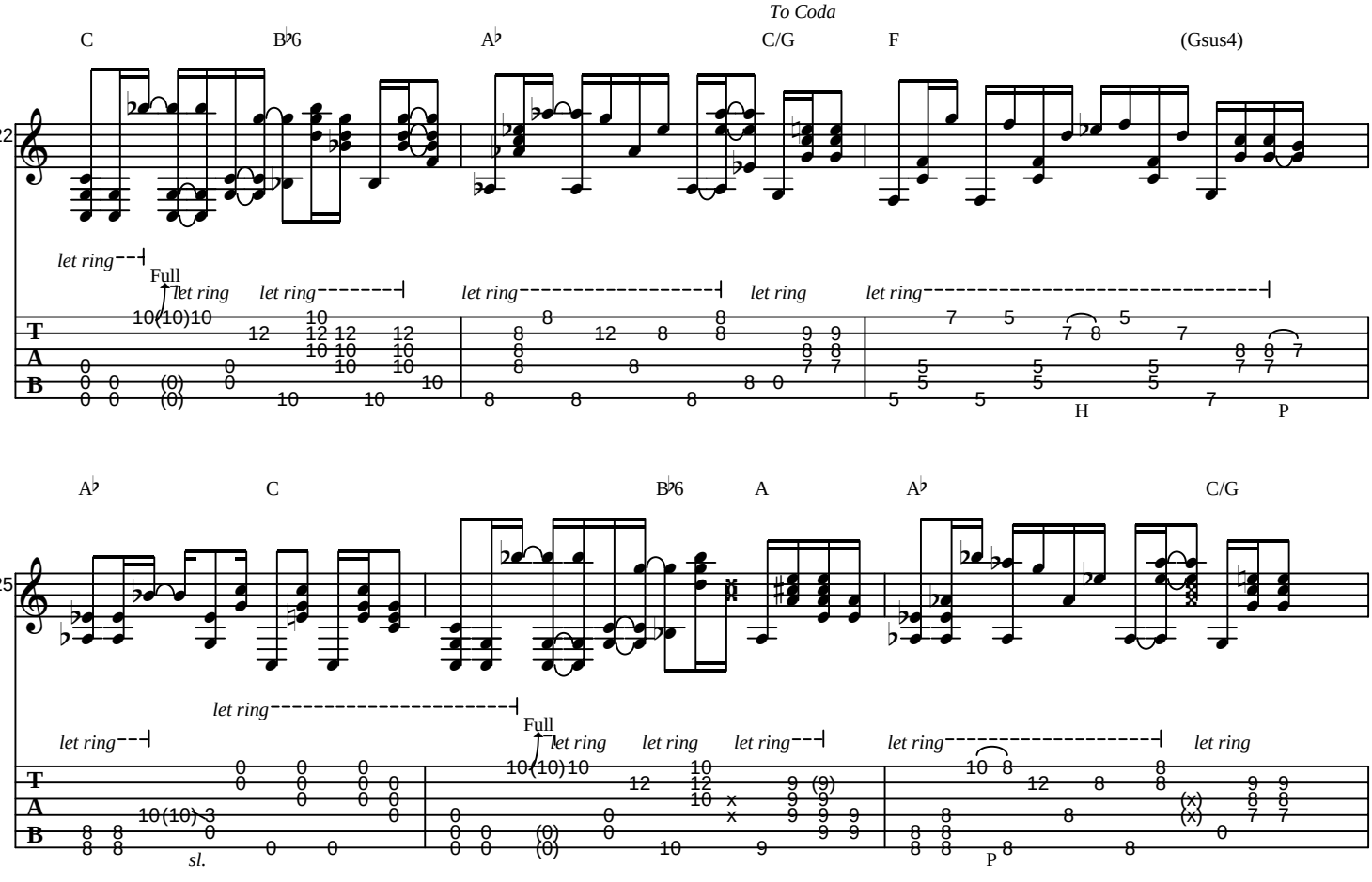

C
let ring

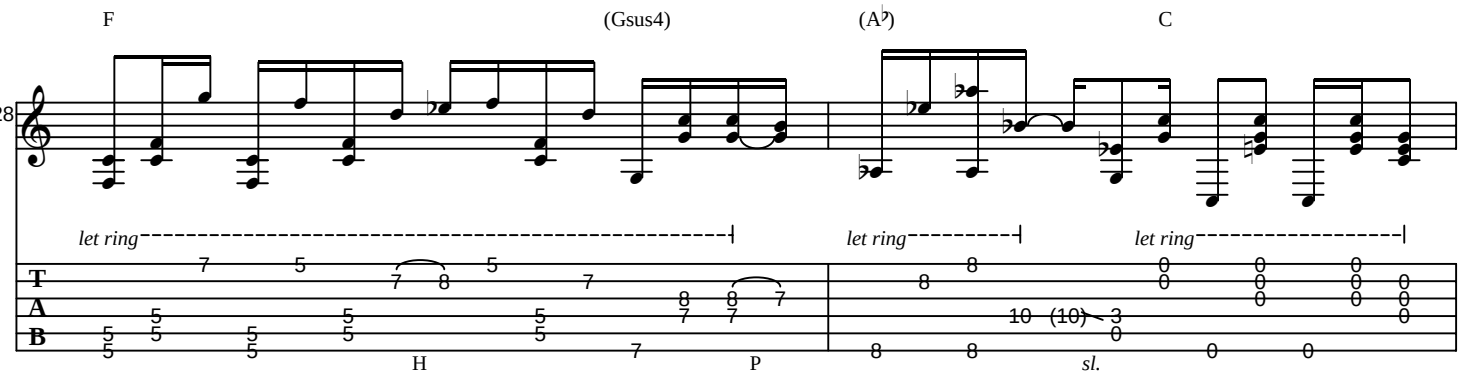
B **Verse 1, 2**

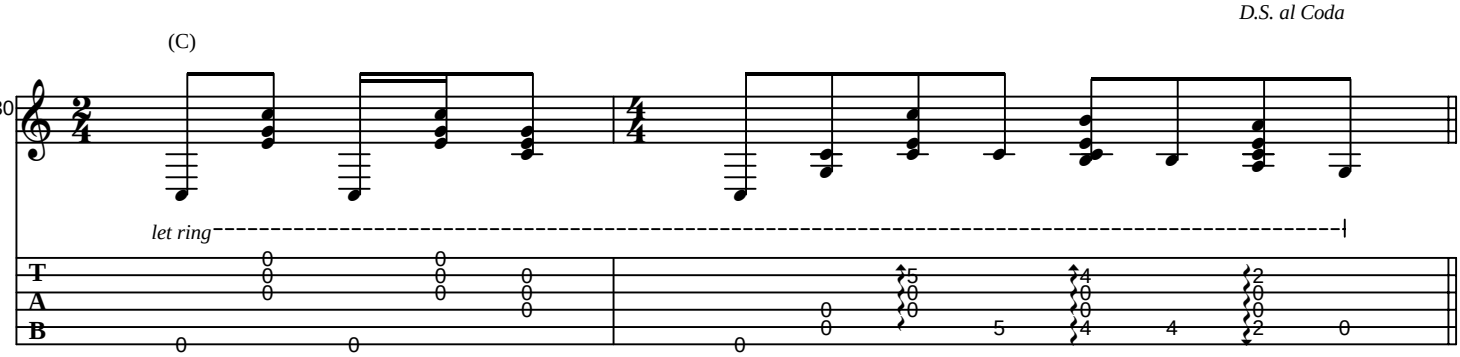

Dm7/A
Fm/C
D
N.C.(E)
let ring
let ring
let ring
*2nd time play simile
sl.



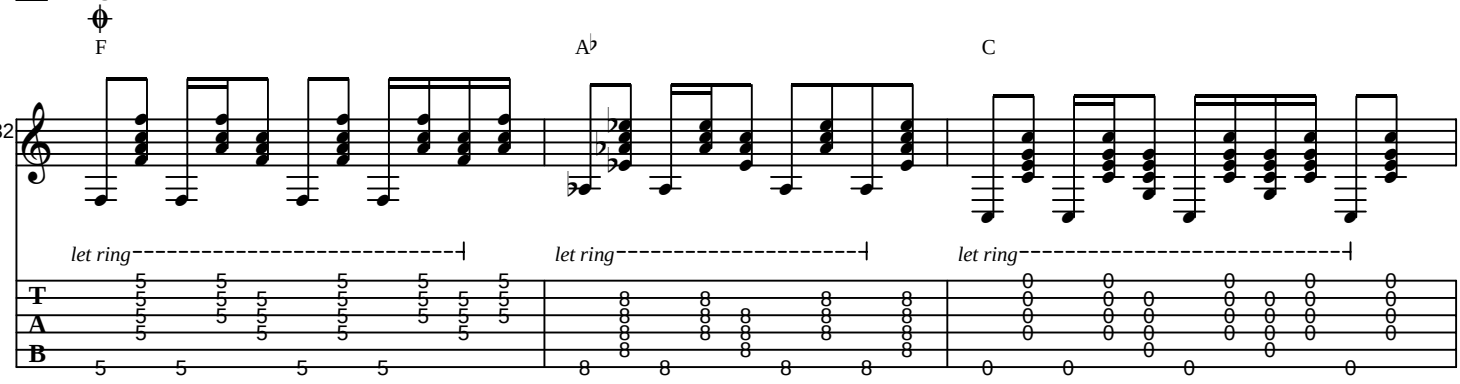
C **Chorus 1, 2** *(Chorus 2 is first two measures only)*

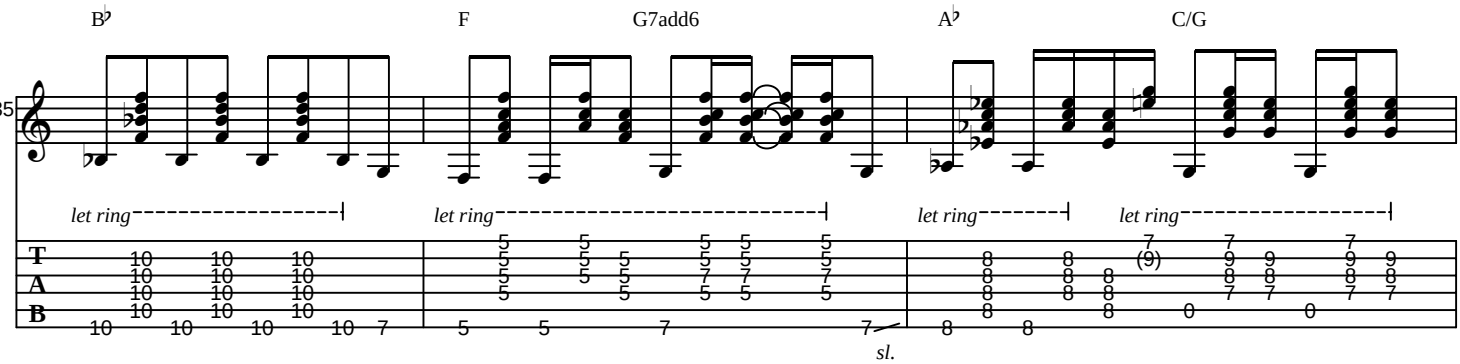


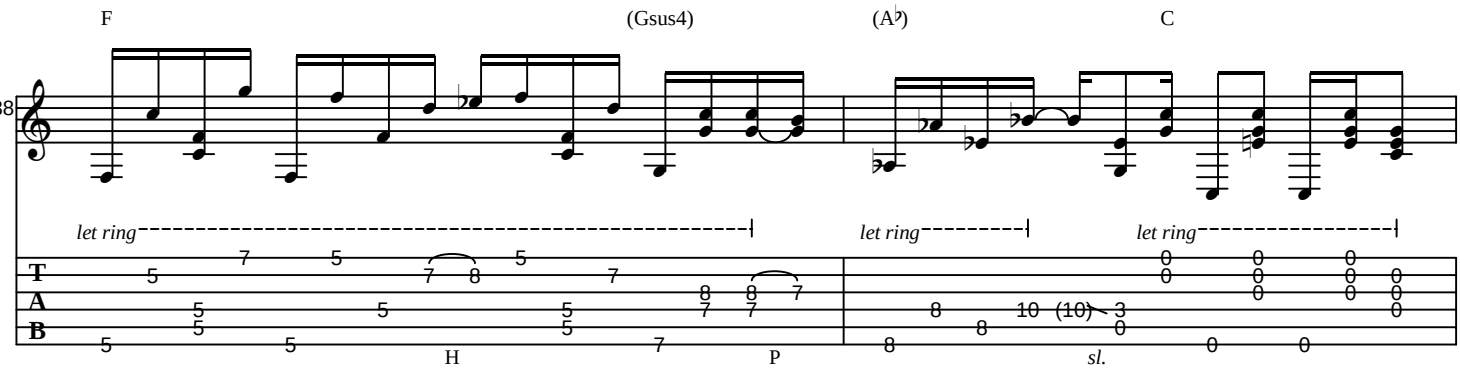

F
(Gsus4)
(A♭)
C
28
let ring
let ring
let ring
H
P
sl.

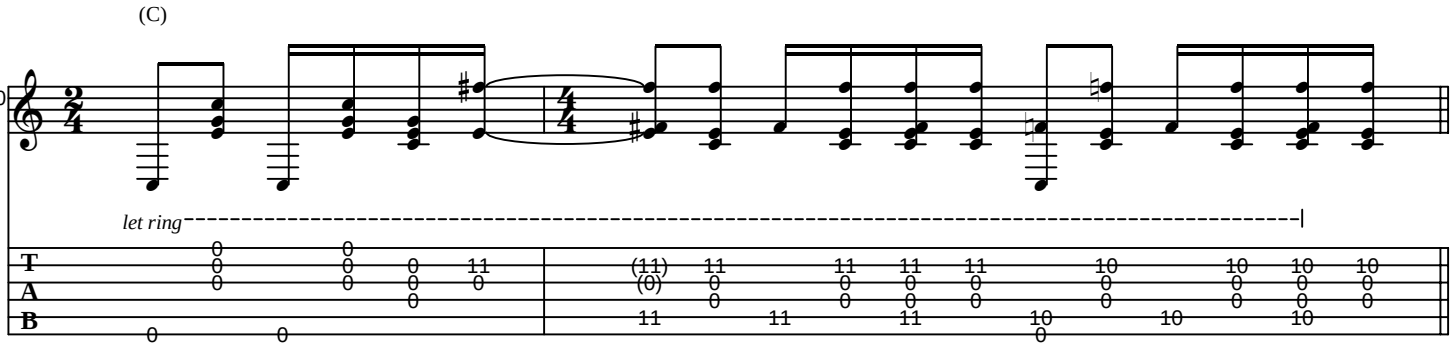

D.S. al Coda
(C)
30
let ring

D **Bridge**

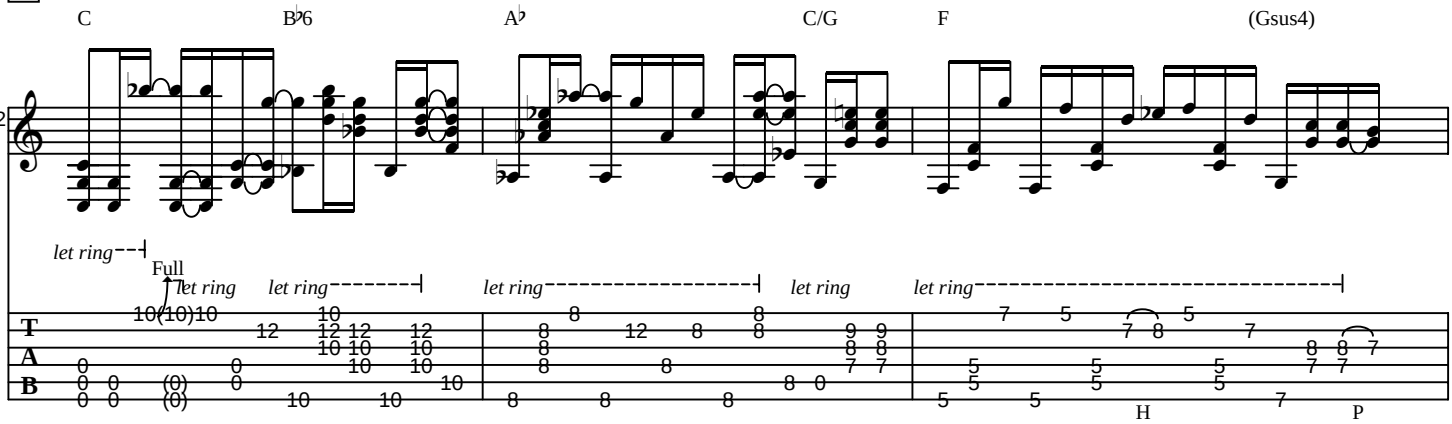

F
A♭
C
32
let ring
let ring
let ring

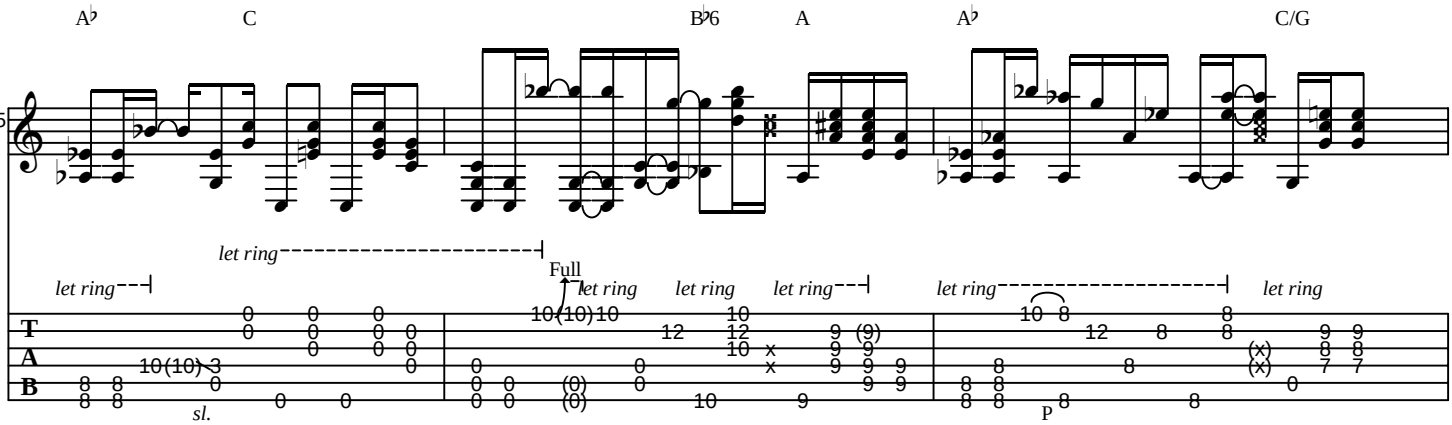

B♭
F
G7add6
A♭
C/G
35
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
sl.

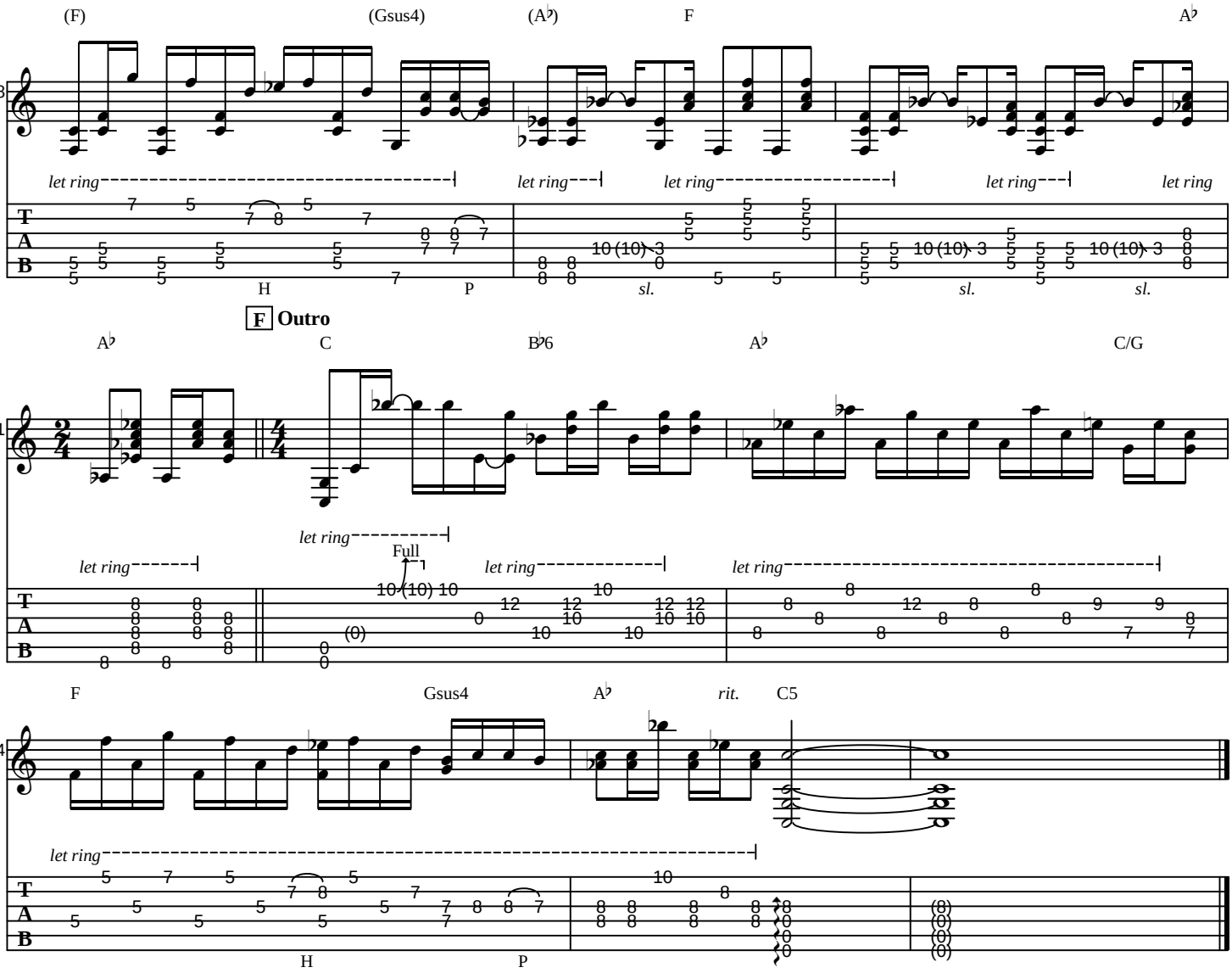

F
(Gsus4)
(A♭)
C
38
let ring
let ring
let ring
H
P
sl.


(C)
40
let ring

E **Chorus 3**


C
B♭6
A♭
C/G
F
(Gsus4)
42
let ring
Full
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
H
P


A♭
C
B♭6
A
A♭
C/G
45
let ring
let ring
Full
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
sl.
P


(F)
(Gsus4)
(A♭)
F
A♭
48
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
let ring
H
P
sl.
sl.
sl.
F Outro
A♭
C
B♭6
A♭
C/G
51
let ring
let ring
Full
let ring
let ring
F
Gsus4
A♭
rit.
C5
54
let ring
H
P