



GUITAR TABS

Justin Roberts – Meltdown

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words and music by Justin Roberts

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above illustration by ned wyss

1. I CHALK

A **Bm** **D** **E**
Outside our house, the neighbors just gawk (or maybe not)
A **Bm** **D** **E**
Why can't they see there's a museum on our block
C# **D**
All the grown ups they just stand around and talk
A **E** **D** **E** **A** **E** **D** **E**
I chalk, I ch-ch-ch chalk

Sister and me, drew dragons and kings (with tiny wings)
While all the grown ups talked about their grown up things
I drew a monster's door and made sure it was locked
I chalk, ch-ch-ch chalk

G# **A** **E**
You won't believe what happened the next day
G# **A** **E**
I went to leave and they washed it all away
 A **E**
Yeah, my paintings were gone
 A **E**
Because they fed the lawn
 F#m **B** **E-B-A-B (2X)**
But I will start again with Ch-ch-ch chalk!

D# **E**
You can't stop us with those sprinklers on the block
 B **F#** **E** **F#** **B** **F#** **E** **F#**
Cause I chalk, I ch-ch-ch chalk

B **C#m** **E** **F#**
Then Dad grabbed chalk and got on one knee (suddenly)
B **C#m** **E** **F#**
Sister was shocked, said that he's drawing a dolly
D# **E**
We didn't want to tell him that it looked more like a clock
B **F#** **E** **F#** **B** **F#** **E** **F#**

I chalk, I ch-ch-ch chalk

Now our front steps are like the coolest on the block
Cause I chalk, I ch-ch-ch chalk

B F# E F#
You draw an ocean, I'll draw a motorbike
B F# E F#
You draw an airplane, I'll draw the summer sky
B F# E F# B F# E F# (fade to end)
You draw some flowers, I'll draw the radio, radio, radio

2. MY BROTHER DID IT (capo on 4, D)

Intro: **D G A D** (2x)

D **A** **D**
Mama wants to know who spilt the milk
G **Bm** **A**
And who left the cereal box out
D **A** **D**
Mama wants to know about that train track route
G **Bm** **A**
That runs up and down the stairs, all around the house
G **D**
Well I stand here all the while
Bm **A**
A full grown kid on trial
D A **G Bm** **Em A**
And I would be the first one to admit it

D **G**
My brother did it, he did it
A **D**
He did a did a did a did it
D **G**
He did it, he did it
A **D**
He did a did a did a da
D **G**
Well, it couldn't have been me
A **Bm**
cause my heart just wasn't in it
D **G**
No, he did it, he did it
A **D**
He did a did a did a da

(Intro)

Mama wants to know who ate that chocolate cake
Right out of the fridge, didn't leave a little smidge
Daddy wants to know who colored crayons on the wall
Isn't that a shame signed my sister's name

Well, I wasn't there at the time
Far from the scene of the crime
And I would be the first one to admit it

CHORUS

Bm A G D
If my brother was old enough to talk (about it)
Bm A G D
My brother was old enough to walk (but I doubt it)
Em G
Then he could tell you about the wild and wonderful
D A
Things that are going on when you're gone, when you're gone
G D
And when you return after just one minute
Em G Em G
To find out who made us laugh when he burped into his glass
A A#
I'll admit it

CHORUS (in **D#**)
Outro: In **D#**

3. GET ME SOME GLASSES (capo 2, D. note: G has added d)

D **G**
Mama I must say that the chalkboard
A **D A**
It looks a little awkward from where I sit
D **G**
And mama I'll confide that the words that I read inside
A **D**
Are a little bent you know what I meant

G **D**
So I'm a gonna be like mama
G **D**
And I'm a gonna be like dad
G **D** **A**
I'm a gonna be like everyone who's ever had to have some

G **D** **A** **D**
I'm gonna get me some glasses put 'em on my nose
G **D** **A** **D**
I'm gonna get me some glasses so I can see up close
G **D** **A** **D**
I'm gonna get me some glasses that's what my mama say
G **D** **A** **D** **G** **D** **A** **D**
I'm gonna get me some glasses so I see far away, see far away

Mama there'll be those that'll call me four eyes
Cause I got more eyes than them
But they don't understand that there wouldn't be a superman
Without Clark Kent to an extent

CHORUS

Em
And maybe somewhere down the line
G **D** **A**
I'll be more like Einstein because of these
Em **G**
Still it's all the same to me just as long as I can see
D **A**

Every bird, every bee, every leaf on every tree

Em

G

Every star and moon and sea and everyone

A A7

And especially you, don't you know it's true

CHORUS

End: **D-A-D**

4. OUR IMAGINARY RHINO

G **C/g D/a**
I got a friend
G **C/g D/a**
and he's got a friend
G **C/g D/a**
That no one can see
G **C/g D/a**
he's imaginary
G **C/g D/a**
And that isn't all
G **C/g D/a**
you see he's not a human being
G **C/g** **D/a**
He's got a horn on his head and a jungle for a bed
G **C/g D/a**
not ordinary
C **Cm**
What's his name? how should I know?
G **G/f#** **E**
He's our imaginary rhino
Am **C**
And we think he's more wonderful
Am **D**
Because he's invisible, invisible

Sometimes we're out In the sea
Sipping southern sweet tea
Out of tiny china cups when his rhino interrupts
To offer us cake
Other times we're out in Albuquerque
When the weather starts to feeling murky
So we climb on his back and sing, "bring my bonnie back"
And soon we're home

Sitting down at the dinner table
Hoping mom and dad are able
To see that he's wonderful
Because he's invisible, invisible, here we go

G G/f# Em Em7 C C/b

Rah na na na, rah na na na na na na

Am Am7

(Rah! Rah! for rhino)

G G/f# Em Em7 C C/b

Rah na na na, rah na na na na na na

Am Am7

(Rah! Rah! for rhino)

Now we're almost at the end
But see our rhino's got this friend
That no one can see
he's imaginary
So we sing "rhino come on, come on, come on
Stop making things up"
But the rhino seems so sure
So politely we defer and set the table for more

Cause it's more than super fino
To be imaginary rhinos
Who take the invisible
And make it all visible, visible, here we go

Rah na na na, rah na na na na na na
(Rah! Rah! for rhino)
Rah na na na, rah na na na na na na
(Rah! Rah! for rhino)

G C/g D/a

I got a friend

G C/g D/a

and he's got a friend

End: **G**

5. MELTDOWN (capo on 1, G)

G B C
Brother and me were in the living room
D
Busy coloring chairs that we lay on
G B C
No signs of gloom, a quiet affair
D
That is until I borrowed his crayon
C G Am D
I cannot lie it's the one he loves the best and
C G C D
I don't know why I put him to the test
B C D
But I had no idea he'd get this distressed

G B C D
Now he's having a meltdown
G B C D
Didn't know that he felt down
G B C D
A m-m-m-m-m meltdown

Then Mom walked in and stared at us in awe
Couldn't quite understand what the deal was
Or what she saw, I took my brother's hand
Gave him his crayon and said sorry cause

I was aware that we were in a bind
Mom's antique chairs were covered in colored lines
And I guess she not a fan of those rainbow designs

Now she's having a meltdown
Didn't know that she felt down
A m-m-m-m-m meltdown

G B C
She's having an M-E-L-T-D-O-W-N
D
D-O-W-N down.

6. MAYBE THE MONSTER

A **D** **E**
Maybe the monster under my bed
A **D** **E**
Maybe he's famished and hasn't been properly fed
D **Dm** **A** **A7**
Or maybe he's occupied and couldn't care less
D **Dm** **A** **A7**
Or maybe he's just distracted by the awful mess
D **Dm** **A** **A/g#** **F#m**
Of socks and toys and unidentified objects

Bm **Bm/a** **D**
Or maybe he's waiting there quietly (sh sh sh, sh sh sh)
Bm **D** **A** **E** **Bm** **D**
Cause maybe the monster's afraid of me

Maybe the monster is in need of a rest
Or maybe the monster hasn't been properly dressed
Maybe he's on vacation somewhere out west
Wearing his cowboy boots, with blue jeans and a vest
Singing a lonesome song like we should be impressed

Or maybe he's waiting there quietly (sh sh sh, sh sh sh)
Cause maybe the monster's afraid of me

E **Bm**
Maybe we should just turn on the light
D
Open up the door a little bit
A **A/g#** **D**
Maybe he's been waiting for hours to try to escape
A **E** **D**
Maybe he's a little sad, needs his monster mom and dad

A **E** **Bm** **D**

A E Bm D A E Bm D

Though I really can't be sure

A E Bm D A E

Maybe the monster thinks I'm a monster without fur.

Bm D

It's quite possible.

A E Bm D (fade to end)

7. SANDCASTLE (note: G with added d)

Intro: **G**

G **C**
Dad and me went out to the sea

Em **D**
Just to build it, just to build it

G **C**
We dug our hands down in the sand

Em **D**
Then we filled it, then we filled it

C
Till you were just a sandcastle

G **D**
When we watched you in front of those waves

C
That was like a real hassle

G **D**
But you were beautiful and brave

C
You stood like a sandcastle

Em **D** **G** **C**
And I'll never forget that day

Em **D** **G**
I'll never forget that day

C **G** **C** **Em7** **D** **C** **G**
We sang ba ba ba...

G **C**
Dad and I heard planes in the sky

Am **D**
Engines roaring, engines roaring

G **C**
We built a bridge and castles so high

Am **D**
They were soaring, they were soaring

Till you were just a sandcastle
When we watched you in front of those waves
That was like a real hassle
But you were beautiful and brave
You stood like a sandcastle

And I'll never forget that day
I'll never forget that day

C G C G

We sang ba ba ba...

C

We didn't want you to go

B7

We just thought you should know

D

She slipped through our hands

Em

C

Just like a balloon returns to the sky

Em C

So Dad and I

D

Em

Knew you'd be somewhere out in the sea

D

C

In a million sandcastles to be

G D G C

G C G

C G C Em7 D C G

We sang ba ba ba...

8. TAKING OFF MY TRAINING WHEELS (capo on 3, D. note: G with added d)

D

I started off with three wheels, then I went to four

D

I started off with three wheels, then I went to four

G

Just to get to two (doesn't seem right)

D

It doesn't seem right (doesn't seem right)

A

To go from three to four to two

G

So I'm taking off (taking off)

D

I'm taking off (taking off)

A

D

I'm taking off my training wheels

Now I won't be scared a bit when I take that ride

No, I won't be scared a bit with Dad by my side

He'll catch my fall (catch my fall)

Catch my fall (catch my fall)

When you're a dad, sometimes that's the deal

CHORUS

Solo: **C C# D** (4x)

G D A D

C C# D

Even though I took 'em off

C C# D

might put 'em back on

C C# D

Even though I took 'em off

C C# D

might put 'em back on

G

And I might go rollin' rollin' rollin' rollin' rollin'

D

Through the lawn

G

Cause it's softer, softer, softer, softer, softer

D A

Softer on the lawn

Even if I fall down on the hard cement
Even if I fall down and my bike gets bent
Though it wouldn't be right (wouldn't be right)
It wouldn't be right (wouldn't be right)
Sometimes that's just how it feels

So I'm taking off (taking off)
I'm taking off (taking off)

A G

I'm taking off my training wheels

D

Started off with three wheels, then I went to four

D

Started off with three wheels, then I went to four

G D

Just to get to two

9. MORE THAN JUST A MINUTE (capo on 5, G)

G **C** **D**
The sun is out and the sky is blue
G **C** **D**
Mama can I go to the park with you
 G **C** **D**
And she says "Just a minute"
 G **C** **D**
She says "Just a minute"
Bm **Em**
 But sometimes when my mama says
G **C** **D**
 Just a minute
 G **C** **D**
She means more than just a minute
 G **C** **D**
She means more than just a minute

G **C** **D/a**
And the clocks go tick tick tick tick tock
G **C** **D/a**
Tick tick tick tick tock

Sometimes I think about my baby brother
When he was just a minute old and he was so small
And my grandma, you know,
she is more than just a minute
She is many, many, many, many minutes
And we're all just minutes
But then I kiss my mama on the cheek
And I feel like I'm more than just a minute
For that minute I'm more than just a minute

CHORUS

Mama that was just a minute
That was not more than just a minute

10. CARTWHEELS & SOMERSAULTS (capo on 3, G)

Well we never really knew
How much we needed you
Before you came into our lives
Things were pretty nice
All the presents 'round the tree
Were mostly meant for me
But that's how it's got to be
We'll split 'em up evenly
Because you're worth it, maybe more

Cause now we're doing cartwheels and somersaults
And it's all your fault, yeah it's all your fault. It's
You we love (mama can I hold her)
It's you we love (let's put her on your shoulder)
It's you we love

Right now you're really small
But soon we'll have a ball
Shooting soccer in the backyard
I'll show you how to kick this hard
Later on you'll be at school
I might act a little cool
When you pass me in the hall
I might just nod that's all
But you know you're worth it and maybe more
Yeah probably a whole lot more

CHORUS

Am
Who knew a baby sister
Am7
Could come along and make us realize
G
How much we'd always missed her?

The song sounds a little sad
But really were just glad
I mean out there in the backyard
Just look at Mom and Dad

CHORUS

11. KOALA BEAR DINER

Intro: **G C**

G **C** **D**
We're up high in the Eucalyptus
G **C** **D**
We're up high where the sun's just kissed us
C **D** **G**
Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus

We're up high where they've never nipped us
No, we took a straw and then we sipped us
Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus

C **D**
Is there anything finer (no, no, no)
Em
Than to be a recliner (no, no, no)
C
In this koala bear diner

Eating up the leaves like a one, two, three
D
From this Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus lyptus

The menu is quite concise
Pureed, sautéed, or sliced
Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus

There's really not that much to do
Just eat and sleep and read the news
It's all Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus

CHORUS

C **D**
Everything was going fine (koala la la la)

Eucalyptus all the time (koala la la la) **C D**
Til that one Koala had to say **B C D**
It's getting kinda boring (koala la la la) **C D**
"We've been asleep all morning (koala la la la) **C D**
And there's so much going on down there **B C D**
And we're up here" **C D**

We're up high in the Eucalyptus
We're up high where the sun's just kissed us
It's Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca Eu-ca lyptus

CHORUS

Outro: **G C** (fade to end)

12. IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY (note: C with added high g)

G C G C
The candles are on the cake
G C G C
Don't you know it, don't you know it?
G C G C
I hope I don't make a mistake
G C G C
When I blow it, when I blow it
Em C G G/f# C D
Out, out, everyone will scream and shout

G B
It's your birthday (ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba)
Em C G
Birthday (ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba)

G G/f#
With the donkey and pin the tail
C Am
I've been known to fail
G G/f# C D
But not today I can feel it in my bones
Em C
You take a little spin and then you push the pin
G G/f# C D
That's it now, you got it

CHORUS

Musical chairs there is no doubt
I'm the first one out
But not today I can feel it in my heart
The music's gonna stop, the music's gonna start

CHORUS

Am **F** **C** **F**
Here comes the moment that we've all been waiting for
Am **Em** **F** **C**
I won't be the one who's running for the door
Am **F** **C** **F**
Everyone just gather round the candles are a glow
B **Em** **C** **D**
I'll take a deep breath, close my eyes, make a wish and ---

D
Was there ever any doubt

Listen to them shout

C **G** **C** **G**
C **G** **Am** **D** **E**

A **C#**
It's your birthday (ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba)
F#m **D**
Birthday (ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba, ba)
A **C#** **F#m** **D**
I can hardly wait until the same time next year

A
When everyone will say

End: **A E A**

G Em Bm G
I will sing this song for you

End: **G**