

# Red Right Ankle

Words & Music:  
Colin Meloy (The Decemberists)

*This is transcribed in the August 2007 issue of Acoustic Guitar. This version in G is correct.  
Ideally, you want to keep the D going as a drone in all the G & Em chords by keeping a finger on the  
3<sup>rd</sup> fret of the B string.*

G/F# G G/F# G

G/F# G G/F# G  
This is the story of your red right ankle, and how it came to meet your leg  
And how the muscle bone and sinews tangled, and how the skin was softly shed  
Em A Em7 A Asus4 A  
And how it whispered, "Oh, adhere to me, for we are bound by symmetry.  
Em7 A Asus4 D G G/F#  
And whatever differences our lives have been--, we together make a limb"  
Em7 A G/F# G G/F# G  
This is the story of your red right ankle

This is the story of your gypsy uncle, you never knew cause he was dead  
And how his face was carved and ripped wrinkles, in the picture in your head  
And remember how you found the key, to his hideout in the Pyrenees  
But you wanted to keep his secret safe, so you threw the key away  
This is the story of your gypsy uncle

INTERLUDE: Em7 Em9 A Asus4 A Em Em9 Em A Asus2/4 A A6 A

This is the story of the boys who loved you, who love you now & loved you then  
And some were sweet and some were cold and snuffed you, and some just laid  
around in bed  
And had crumbled you straight to your knees, did it cruel did it tenderly  
And some had crawled their way into your heart, to rend your ventricles apart  
This is the story of the boys who loved you

OUTRO:

Bm11 G/A G G/F#

Em7 A D  
This is the story of your red right ankle