

"STASH" Phish

As heard on *A Picture of Nectar* (ELEKTRA)

Words and Music by **Trey Anastasio and Tom Marshall** • Transcribed by **Andy Aledort**

I'm pullin' the pavement from under my nails
I brush past a garden, dependent on whales
The sloping companion I cast down the ash
Yanked on my tunic and dangled my stash

Zippin' through the forest with the curdling fleas
To grow with them spindles, the mutant I seize
I capture the dread beast who falls to his knees
And cries to his cohorts, asleep in the trees

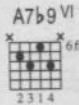
Smegma, dogmatagram, fishmarket stew
Police in the corner, gunnin' for you
Appletost, bedheated, furlblanket rat
Laugh when they shoot you
Say "Please don't do that"

Control for smilers can't be bought
The solar garlic starts to rot
Was it for this my life I sought

Maybe so and maybe not (4x)

Was it for this my life I sought
(Maybe so and maybe not)
Control for smilers can't be bought
(Maybe so and maybe not)
The solar garlic starts to rot
(Maybe so and maybe not)

Was it for this my life I sought
(Maybe so and maybe not) (4x)



A Intro (0:01)

B Main Theme (0:09, 1:16, 3:18)

Moderately ♩ = 89

Elec. Gtr. (w/light dist., slap-back echo and compression)
* Em7b5 A7b9 Dm13

N.C.(Dm7) (Bb7/F)

1

Bass (5-string arr. for 4-string)
w/pick

*Chords symbols reflect harmony provided by piano part until [F].

(4th time) skip ahead to [E] 1.

(Em7/Bb) (A7/E) (Dm7) (Bb7/F) (Em7b5) (A7b9) (Dm7)

5

P.M.

2. [C] 2nd Theme (0:30, 3:40)

(Em7b5) (A7b9) (Dm7) Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7

8

(4th time) skip ahead to [E] 1.

11 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 (Gm9) A7b9 Dm7 (Gm9) A7b9 Dm7

(repeat previous measure)

D 3rd Theme (0:52)

14 A7b9

pitch: A

fbk. P.M.-----

17

pitch: A

fbk. P.M.-----

G° Dm/F A7/E

go back to [B] (observe repeats)

E (1:35, 3:58)

21 Dm C#m7b5 A A7b9 P.M. P.M.

23 (Em7b5) (A7b9) 1/4

F Verse (1:40, 4:04)

1. I'm pullin' the pavement from under my nails...
2. Smegma dogmatagram fishmarket stew...

24 Dm7 A7b9 Dm7 A7b9

piano arr. for gtr.

*repeat previous chord

"STASH"

Dm7

A7b9^{VI}

Dm7^V

28 >v

P.M. P.M.

G Interlude (2:02)

(2nd time) skip ahead to **I**

31 A7b9^{VI} Dm7^V *(A7)

*Chord symbols reflect harmony provided by piano part.

34 (Dm) 1. (A7) (Dm)

2. **H Instrumental Break (2:20)**

37 (A7) Am

40 Fm7 Db7/Ab Cm C#m7 A7/E

43 G#m Am7 F7/C Em7

46 Cm7 Ab7/Eb Gm

49 G#m7 E7/B Dbm Bmaj7 Bb°7 Abm Eb7b9/G Eb

I Outro (4:22)

go back to **B** (observe repeats)

Maybe so and maybe not...

52 Eb7b9

53 Dm7^v Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9^{VI} P.M.

(5:02)

J Outro Guitar Solo (5:04)

Was it for this my life I sought... (Maybe so or maybe not)

Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9^{VI} *Dm7 (w/dist.) Bb7

55 (play 7 times simile)

*Chord symbols reflect basic overall harmony

"STASH"

58 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7 w/fdbk. Em7b5 A7b9

pitch: C#

Bass Fig. 1

61 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7

64 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9

67 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7

70 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9

73 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7

76 Em7b5 A7b9 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9

79 Dm7 Bb7 Em7b5 A7b9

83 Dm7

85 Dm7

89 Dm7

92 Em7b5

95 Dm7

98 Em7b5 Elec. Gtr.

101 Dm7

104 Em7b5

The main guitar score for "STASH" consists of 104 measures. It is written in standard notation with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into systems of two staves each. Chord changes are indicated above the staff. The score includes various techniques such as bends, vibrato, and double stops. A bass figure is indicated in measures 58-60 and 67-70. The score is annotated with measure numbers 58, 61, 64, 67, 70, 73, 76, 79, 83, 85, 89, 92, 95, 98, 101, and 104. The piece concludes with a final chord of Em7b5 in measure 104.

Phish "Stash"

Phish combine diverse influences well, drawing inspiration in equal parts from the trippy instrumental explorations of the Grateful Dead, the quirky, angular dissonance of Captain Beefheart, the prog-rock of King Crimson and the direct melodic sense of Appalachian folk and blues, fused with occasional forays into jazz harmony.

In the words of Phish guitarist Trey Anastasio, this song "was really influenced by the recordings of the Benny Goodman Quintet, with Charlie Christian on guitar. When I wrote 'Stash,' I was focusing on the I-VI-II-V (one-six-two-five) jazz chord progressions that I heard in Benny Goodman's music."

Throughout the majority of this song (except for the extended outro solo), Anastasio utilizes a clear and relatively clean tone and displays precise articulation in the performance of the many elaborate melodies that weave through the composition. He begins the song with a melody based on the D whole/half diminished scale (D E F G# A# B C#). The main theme (section B, bar 4) may be analyzed as being based on either the D Dorian mode (D E F G A B C) or D Aeolian (D E F G A Bb C), with the inclusion of the "flatted fifth," Ab. Use the index and ring fingers exclusively when fretting this melody.

The second theme (letter C) is more linear than scalar, in that it outlines a chord progression, as opposed to being based on a static mode or scale. As Trey explained to *Guitar World* a couple of years back, "The first four notes relate to the ii [two minor] chord, Em7b5; the [subsequent] slide from D down to C# sets up the A7b9 chord on beat two, as C# is the third of that chord. Beat 2 ends with a slide from G# to A, which in turn sets up the next chord, Dm7 with its fifth. I use melodic chromaticism [a succession of notes one half step, or one fret, apart] to delineate the chord progression. Rock and blues players should investigate these types of ideas because the use of resolutions will give your improvised lines a strong feeling of forward motion."

Anastasio utilizes a similar approach over an A7b9 chord during the third theme (section D); at 1:07 (bar 20), he combines chromaticism with arpeggios to outline a succession of chord changes, and ends the phrase with an ascending lick based on a C# diminished seven arpeggio (C# E G Bb).

Probably the most technically challenging section of "Stash" is the instrumental break at

section H. To execute these complex melodies properly, use alternate (down-up) picking throughout; notice how Trey infuses elements of the main theme while constantly modulating through a succession of key centers. The section wraps up with a reprise of the ending of the third theme, played here three whole steps higher, in the key of Ab minor.

At the outro (section I), Anastasio establishes the repeated two-bar chord progression of Dm7-Bb7-Em7b5-A7b9 that he uses to solo over. During this extended 40-bar solo (letter J), the guitarist alternates between closely outlining the chord progression (bars 57, 58 and 65-68) to creating a dense wall of cacophony (bars 73-76). —Andy Aledort

The Pixies "Here Comes Your Man"

When playing the main riff in this song (see *Riff A*, bar 3), use your middle finger to fret the first note, G (sixth string, third fret), followed by your index finger on the B note (second fret, fifth string). Once you get past the first two beats of bar 3, keep your fret hand in the fourth position for the remainder of the riff. Your index finger will play any notes located at the fourth fret, your middle finger frets any notes at the fifth fret, and so on.

While the notes for Guitar 1 in bars 6-9 are picked individually, the term "let ring throughout" above the tablature indicates that these are actually arpeggiated chord forms. Be sure to hold each chord shape and allow the notes to ring together throughout each measure.

In measures 47-52 lead guitarist Joey Santiago plays wailing licks using a succession of *unison bends*. This technique involves bending a note up a whole step (equal to two frets) to match the pitch of an unbent note on the next higher string. Be sure to use reinforced fingering (ring and middle fingers) for all the bends in these measures. If you have trouble hearing the "target pitch" of each bend, use the note on the first string as a reference point. —Jeff Perrin

The Ramones "Sheena Is a Punk Rocker"

The pride of Forest Hills, New York, the Ramones were punk progenitors *numero uno*, and "Sheena" is one of the many great tracks from the band's breakthrough third release, *Rocket to Russia*. Guitarist Johnny Ramone's signature wall of noise comes courtesy of many overdubbed Mosrite guitars played

through Marshall amplifiers. This arrangement begins with two distinctly different guitar parts: Guitar 1 performs two-note power chords on the bottom strings with half-step slides from B5 to C5; Guitar 2 plays full barre chords and has a slightly thinner tone.

Throughout the verse and the remainder of the song, these two guitars play virtually the same barre-chord figures, so we've arranged them here for one guitar. In order to attain the appropriate "punch" when executing these rhythm parts, apply a vise-like grip to each chord and aggressively strum a steady succession of downstrokes. The simplicity is deceptive, however, as both hands must be in shape in order to sustain this non-stop assault. —Andy Aledort

Green Day "When I Come Around"

The power in this song is derived from guitarist Billie Joe Armstrong's heavy emphasis on *syncopation*: throughout the intro and verses (sections A and B), he alternates between *palm-muted* two-note power chords and fuller three- and four-note voicings that are sustained, using downstrokes to play everything except the occasional pair of 16th notes, which he strums with a quick down-up combination.

When playing the palm-muted chords (indicated by the abbreviation "P.M." above the tablature), rest the edge of the pick-hand palm across the appropriate strings in front of the bridge in order to achieve the desired effect. Armstrong uses humbucking pickups (bridge position) and 100-watt Marshall and Mesa amplifiers to achieve his fat, earth-shaking tone.

During the first four bars of the song's chorus (section C), Armstrong strums all of the chords aggressively and allows the notes to sustain, which serves to "open up" the sound and groove and create an effective contrast to the tighter-sounding verse figure.

Armstrong plays a simple, catchy four-bar solo in this song (section E): he begins by arpeggiating three-note chord forms on the top three strings (picking the notes of each chord individually), switching to strumming pairs of notes in bars 22 and 23.

Also noteworthy in this song is bassist Mike Dirnt's highly active and melodic bass line. Using a pick, Dirnt plays complex melodies that outline each chord in the progression, stylistically akin to bass lines heard in Jamaican reggae and dub styles.

—Andy Aledort