Don't Fear the Reaper

Blue Oyster

https://tinyurl.com/4f4xkh4r

Edited 10-6-26

*Cheat and just hold G thru, or just do Am G

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4x   Am          G            F            G
A  |-----0----------|----------------|
E  |-------3------3-|---3---3------3-|
C  |---0--------2---|-2---2------2---|
G  |-2--------2-----|----------2-----|
     ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓    ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓
```

VERSE 1

Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Al ll our times have come
Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Here but now they're gone
F G | Am
Seasons don't fear the reaper,
| F E7 |
Nor do the wind, the sun or the
Am G | Am
rain we can be like they are

CHORUS

G | Am G | F
Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am G | F
Baby take my hand (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am G | F
We'll be able to fly (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am C | F G |
Baby I'm your man...

Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
La la la la
Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
La la la la
Am G | F G | Am \ pause3 | pause4 |

```
4x   Am          G            F            G
A  |-----0----------|----------------|
E  |-------3------3-|---3---3------3-|
C  |---0--------2---|-2---2------2---|
G  |-2--------2-----|----------2-----|
     ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓    ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓
```

VERSE 2 (slight overlap in words)

Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Vallllentine is done
Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Heeere but now they're gone
F G | Am | F E7 | Am
Romeo and Juliet, Are together in eternity
G | F G |
(Romeo and Juliet) 40,000 men and women
Am G | F
Everyday (like Romeo and Juliet)
G | Am
40,000 men & women everyday
G | F G |
(redefine happiness) Another 40,000 coming
Am G | F
everyday (we can be like they are)

CHORUS

G | Am G | F
Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am G | F
Baby take my hand (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am G | F
We'll be able to fly (don't fear the reaper)
G | Am C | F G |
Baby I'm your man...

Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
La la la la
Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
La la la la
Am G | F G | Am \ pause3 | pause4 |

(Section Removed, see next page)

```
4x   Am          G            F            G
A  |-----0----------|----------------|
E  |-------3------3-|---3---3------3-|
C  |---0--------2---|-2---2------2---|
G  |-2--------2-----|----------2-----|
     ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓    ↓       ↓   ↑   ↓↑↓
```

VERSE 3

Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Love of two is one
Am G | F G | Am G | F G |
Here but now they're gone
F G | Am
Came the last night of sadness..
| F G | Am
And it was clear she couldn't go on..
G | F G | Am
Then the door was open and the wind
G | F G |
appeared The candles blew then
Am G | F G |
disappeared The curtains flew then
Am G | F
he appeared don't be afraid

CHORUS

G | Am G | Am
Come on baby (and she had no fear)
G | Am G | Am
And she ran to him (then they started to fly)
G | Am
Looked back and said goodby
G | Am
(she had become like they are) She had
G | Am G | Am
taken his hand (she had become like they are)
G | Am G | Am G |
Come on baby (don't fear the reaper)

**F G | Am G | F G | Am **

REMOVED SECTION

4x
Fm G7 | Bm G7 |

4x
(pick 3,2,1,2)
| Fm | Fm | G7 | G7 |
| Fm | Fm | G7 | G7 |

Backstory (generated by AI)
Whenever we pick up our ukuleles to play Blue Öyster Cult's 1976 classic, "(Don't Fear) The Reaper," it's easy to focus entirely on that infectious groove and the legendary demand for "more cowbell." Because of its spooky title and references to Romeo and Juliet, people have spent decades mistakenly thinking the song is a dark anthem about suicide. But the truth is actually a beautiful story about love and resilience.
The song was written by the band's guitarist, Donald Roeser—better known by his stage name, Buck Dharma. When he was just in his late twenties, he was suddenly diagnosed with a heart arrhythmia. Standing at the beginning of a booming music career, the diagnosis hit him hard. For the first time in his life, he was forced to confront his own mortality, imagining what would happen if his time cut short and what it would mean for his wife, Sandy.
Thankfully, Donald's condition turned out to be completely manageable and non-life-threatening. But that brief, scary brush with his own heartbeat sparked a profound realization. He didn't want to write a song about fearing death; he wanted to write about how true love can transcend it. He envisioned the Grim Reaper not as a terrifying monster, but as a gentle guide, reminding us that just like the changing seasons, our time here is a natural cycle—and that the bonds we form with the people we love can outlast our physical forms.
As for that young man facing heart issues? is still alive and rocking today. Over fifty years after that diagnosis, he is in his late 70s, still happily married to Sandy, and still touring and playing his music.
So, as we play this today, let's leave the fear behind. Let's play it for what it truly is: a celebration of enduring love, a beautiful melody, and a reminder to cherish every single beat of our hearts.

