

KANIKAPILA MONDAYS



TRIBUTE TO BRIAN WILSON – MY HERO

30TH JUNE 2025

Love and Mercy

Surfin' USA

The warmth of The Sun

Caroline No

LIVE LINK

[Matt's Tribute to Brian](#)

[Learn Ukulele with Matt](#)



LOVE AND MERCY

G MAJOR

Brian Willson 1988

VERSES + CHORUS

I	V	vi	V	IV	I	vi	V7
G	D	Em	D	C	G	Am7	D7
I	V	vi	V	IV	I	vi	V7
G	D	Em	D	C	G	Am7	D7

INSTRUMENTAL PART 1

V7			
D7			
I	17	IV	iv
G	G7	C	Cm 
I	(IV of vii)	IV	IVadd9
G	C#m7b5 	C	Cadd9 



INSTRUMENTAL PART 2

I	Imaj7	I	Imaj7
G	Gmaj7 	G	Gmaj7
IV	IV	IV	IV
C	Cmaj7 	C	Cmaj7
I	Imaj7	16	N.C.
G	Gmaj7	G6 	

TRY SOLOING WITH G MAJ / EM PENTATONIC SCALES

Love and Mercy

[Verse]

I was sittin' in a crummy movie
With my hands on my chin

All the violence that occurs
Seems like we never win

[Chorus]

Love and mercy, that's what you need tonight
So, love and mercy to you and your friends tonight

[Verse]

I was lying in my room
And the news came on TV

A lotta people out there hurtin'
And it really scares me

[Chorus]

Love and mercy, that's what you need tonight
So, love and mercy to you and your friends tonight

[Verse]

I was standing in a bar
And watching all the people there

Oh, the loneliness in this world
Well, it's just not fair

[Instrumental]

[Chorus]

Hey, love and mercy, that's what we need tonight
So, love and mercy to you and your friends tonight
Love and mercy, that's what you need tonight

Love and mercy tonight





SURFIN' USA

C MAJOR

Brian Wilson / Chuck Berry 1963

VERSES / CHORUS / INSTRUMENTAL

V7		I	
G7		C	
V7		I	
G7		C	
IV		I	
F		C	
V7		I	
G7		C	

TRY SOLOING WITH THE C BLUES SCALE

C BLUES - ALL PLAYING OPTIONS

Surfin' USA

[Verse]

If everybody had an ocean
Across the U.S.A.
Then everybody'd be surfin'
Like Californi-a
You'd see them wearing their baggies
Huarache sandals too
A bushy bushy blond hairdo
Surfin' U.S.A.

[Chorus]

You'd catch 'em surfin' at Del Mar
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
Ventura County line
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
Santa Cruz and Trestles
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
Australia's Narrabeen
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
All over Manhattan
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
And down Doheny Way
(*Inside, outside*)

Everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

[Verse]

We'll all be planning that route
We're gonna take real soon
We're waxing down our surfboards
We can't wait for June
We'll all be gone for the summer
We're on surfari to stay
Tell the teacher we're surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

[Chorus]

Haggerties and Swamis
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
Pacific Palisades
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
San Onofre and Sunset
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
Redondo Beach LA
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
All over La Jolla
(*Inside, outside, U.S.A.*)
At Wa'imea Bay
(*Inside, outside*)

Everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

[Instrumental]

[Outro] (Last line repeated)

Everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

Everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

Yeah everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

Yeah everybody's gone surfin'
Surfin' U.S.A.

THE WARMTH OF THE SUN



Brian Wilson, Mike Love 1964

C MAJOR

INTRO / VERSES

I C	vi Am	bIII Eb 	i 
ii Dm		V7 G7	V7+ 
Second time:			(V of A) E7

CHORUS

VImaj7 		vi7 Am7	II7 D7
Vmaj7 		V7 G7	V7+ G7+

C MAJ / AM PENTATONIC TO SOLO

The Warmth Of The Sun

[Verse]

What good is the dawn
That grows into day
The sunset at night
Or living this way

[Chorus]

For I have the warmth of the sun
(Warmth of the sun)
Within me at night
(Within me at night)

[Verse]

The love of my life
She left me one day
I cried when she said
"I don't feel the same way"

[Chorus]

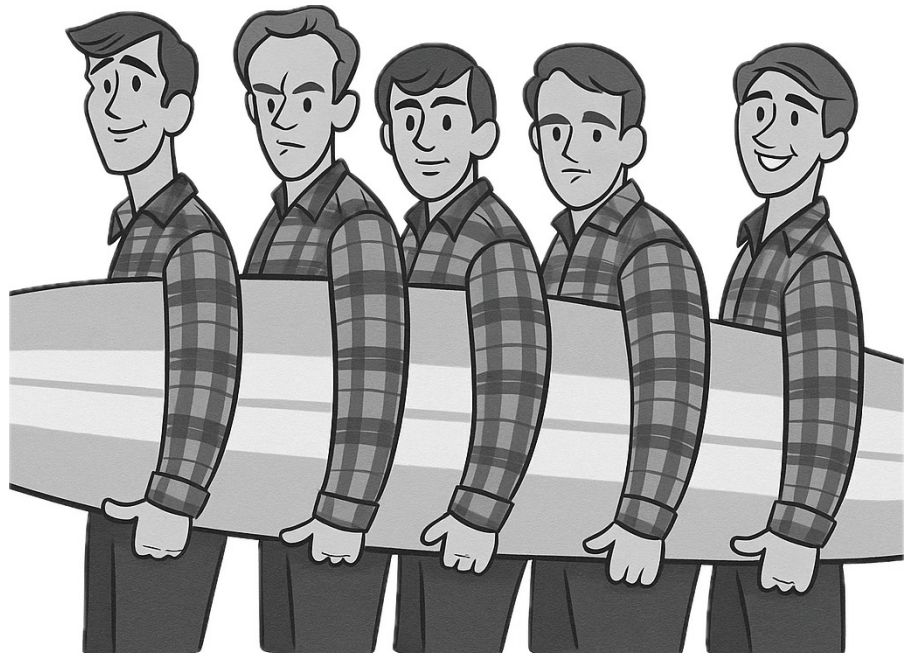
Still I have the warmth of the sun
(Warmth of the sun)
Within me tonight
(Within me tonight)

[Verse]

I'll dream of her arms
And though they're not real
Just like she's still there
The way that I feel

[Chorus]

My love's like the warmth of the sun
(Warmth of the sun)
It won't ever die
(It won't ever die)



CAROLINE NO



D MAJOR

The Brian wilson / Tony Asher 1966



VERSES IN D



D Major

II 6 E6	I 6 D6	II 6 E6	I 6 D6
II 6 E6	ii 7 Em7	V 7 A7	I maj 7 Dmaj7

BRIDGE IN A



A Major

ii 7 V7 Bm7 E7	I maj 7 Amaj7	viim7b5 III7b9 G#m7b5 C#7b9	vi F#m
ii m7 b5 Bm7b5			

Caroline No

[Verse]

Where did your long hair go?
Where is the girl I used to know?
How could you lose that happy glow?
Oh, Caroline, no

[Verse]

Who took that look away?
I remember how you used to say
You'd never change, but that's not true

[Bridge]

Oh, Caroline, you
Break my heart
I want to go and cry
It's so sad to watch a sweet thing die
Oh, Caroline, why?

[Verse]

Could I ever find in you again
The things that made me love you so much
then?
Could we ever bring 'em back once they have
gone?

Oh, Caroline, no

[Instrumental verse to end]



TRIBUTE TO BRIAN

I don't remember the first time I heard the Beach Boys. I'm sure I would have heard them on the radio when I was a kid. I have a vague recollection of singing along to Surfin USA in my Dad's old Mini as we bumbled along country lanes in Devon on the way to the seaside. I do remember one time though that changed everything.

Me and my friend Rob had just started a band at Uni in Bristol and were sat in his tiny bedroom talking about records. He put on a record and Wendy by the Beach Boys started blaring out loudly. I instantly loved it; the harmonies, the swooping melody line, the feeling of melancholy but at the same time; of utter joy and exuberance. It got better though. Rob had a fancy stereo where you could pan hard left or right in the speakers by turning a dial. He leaned forward and turned the dial hard left. The instrumental part of the tracks faded away so all you could hear were the incredible harmonies of the Beach Boys singing crystal clear: brothers Brian and Carl Wilson on the higher parts, their cousin Mike Love on bass and their childhood friend Al Jardine somewhere in the middle. It blew my mind. The harmony moved in blocks, each person adding texture, counterpoint and movement to the mix. By the time Rob moved the dial back and the super simple but cool single note keyboard solo came in I was won over.

That started my love affair with the Beach Boys and specifically the songs of Brian Wilson that lasted a lifetime. I can't even begin to describe how much influence Pet Sounds had on my life, my musicianship and how I think of music. The textures, extended chords, voice leading and the most beautiful harmonies I had ever heard melted my heart. I spent my entire student grant and loan on Beach Boys records. I didn't care that I had to survive on nothing but Cornflakes for several years as a result. Each album had its own feel and contained so many musical gems. My favourites were Beach Boys Today, Wild Honey, Friends, Sunflower and of course Pet Sounds. I read every book on the band and I even wrote a whole load of songs in the style of the Beach Boys and made a record called Sandbox. Brian's songs were everything to me.

After uni I was lucky enough to see Brian on his comeback tours with his amazing group of session musicians largely made up of the band The Wondermints. I got to enjoy both his Pet Sounds tour and the next tour dedicated to the unearthing of Brian's amazing lost masterpiece Smile. I cried, I laughed, I lost my voice singing along and bruised my hands clapping too hard. Then when I met Sharon, my wife, we were lucky enough to see the band reunite with the surviving original members too. We even had their music playing as we walked back down the aisle after getting married.

It's a bit of a cliché to say a band's music saved your life but it's true with the Beach Boys. In the darkest of times, or the happiest, Brian's music has always brought me comfort, wonder and joy. Brian was my musical hero and I am so happy his music will live on and inspire generations. When Brian passed away last week the world lost a musical genius and I lost my most cherished musical hero. I was heartbroken but I know that if Brian knew any of us were feeling sad he would remind us to 'Add some music to your day.'

Rest in peace Brian. Love and Mercy.

Matt x



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