

At Seventeen - Janis Ian in D

Intro

D X2

Verse

D
I learned the truth at seven teen
E Em B Em
That love was meant for beauty queens
A
And high school girls with clear-skinned
smiles
D
Who married young and then retired
D
D
The valentines I never knew
E Em B Em
The Friday night charades of youth
A
Were spent on one more beautiful
D
At seventeen I learned the truth
D
F
And those of us with ravaged faces
Em A
Lacking in the social graces
Dm Gm
Desperately re mained at home
Dm Gm
In venting lovers on the phone
Bb A
Who called to say, "Come dance with me"
Dm Gm
And murmured vague obscenities
Em
It isn't all it seems
A
At seventeen
D
A brown-eyed girl in hand-me-downs
E Em B Em
Whose name I never could pronounce

SOLOS

A
Said, "Pity, please, the ones who serve
D
They only get what they deserve"
D
D
And the rich related hometown queen
E Em B Em
Marries into what she needs
A
With a guarantee of company
D
And haven for the elderly
F
Remember those who win the game
Em A
Lose the love they sought to gain
Dm Gm
In debentures of quality
Dm Gm
And dubious in tegrity
Bb A
Their small town eyes will gape at you
Dm Gm
In dull surprise when payment due
Em
Exceeds accounts received
A
At seventeen
Instrument solo
D
To those of us who knew the pain
E Em B Em
Of valen tines that never came
A
And those whose names were never called
D
When choosing sides for basketball
D
D
It was long ago and far away

E Em B Em
The world was younger than today

A

When dreams were all they gave for free

D

To ugly duckling girls like me

D F

We all play the game and when we dare

Em A

To cheat ourselves at solitaire

Dm Gm

In venting lovers on the phone

Dm Gm

Re penting other lives unknown

Bb A

They call and say, "Come dance with me"

Dm Gm

And murmur vague obscenities

Em

At ugly girls like me

A

At seventeen

D