

Leader of the Band - Dan Fogelberg

. Intro: G7 C Am Em D G (C/G) G (C/G) G (C/G) G

G (C/G) G Bm C
An only child alone and wild, a cabinet maker's son

Am Em Am C D
His hands were meant for different work and his heart was known to none.

G (C/G) G Bm C
He left his home and went his lone and solitary way

. Am Em Am D7 G (C/G) G (C/G) G (C/G) G
And he gave to me a gift I know I never can repay

G (C/G) G Bm C
A quiet man of music, denied a simpler fate

Am Em Am C D
He tried to be a soldier once but his music wouldn't wait

G (C/G) G Bm C
He earned his love through discipline, a thund'ring velvet hand

. Am Em Am D7 G
His gentle means of sculpting souls took me years to understand

Chorus:

. C Bm C G
. The leader of the band is tired and his eyes are growing old
. Am Em Am F D
. But his blood runs through my instrument and his song is in my soul
. C Bm C G
. My life has been a poor attempt to imitate the man
. Am Em Am C G
. I'm just a living legacy to the lea--der of-- the band

. (C/G) G (C/G) G (C/G) G

G (C/G) G Bm C
My brothers' lives were different for they heard another call

Am Em Am C D
One went to Chicago, the other to St. Paul

G (C/G) G Bm C
And I'm in Colorado when I'm not in some hotel

Am Em Am D7 G (C/G) G
Living out this life I chose and come to know so well

. G7 C Am Em D7 G (C/G) G (C/G) G (C/G) G

(no lyrics)

G (C/G) G Bm C
I thank you for the music and your stories of the road

Am Em Am C D
I thank you for the freedom when it came my time to go

G (C/G) G Bm C
I thank you for the kindness and the times when you got tough

Am Em Am D7 G
And papa I don't think I said "I love you" near enough.

. (Chorus followed by ending:)

. Am Em Am C D G
. I am the living legacy to the leader of the band
(C/G) G (C/G) G (C/G) G G7 C Am Em D7 G