

The Swimming Song (Loudon Wainwright III, 1973) (C)

[The Swimming Song](#) by Loudon Wainwright III (1973) (A @ 93)

Chorus

C **G7** **Am**
This summer I went swimming, this summer I might have drowned
F **C** **G7** **Am**
But I held my breath and I kicked my feet, and I moved my arms a-round,

C **G7** **Am**
This summer I swam in the ocean, and I swam in a swimming pool,
F **C** **G7** **Am**
Salt my wounds, chlorine my eyes, I'm a self-destructive fool,
G7 **C**
A self-destructive fool. **Chorus**

C **G7** **Am**
This summer I did the backstroke, and you know that's not all
F **C** **G7** **Am**
I did the breast stroke and the butterfly, and the old Australian crawl,
G7 **C**
The old Australian crawl.

C **G7** **Am**
This summer I swam in a public place, and a reservoir, to boot,
F **C** **G7** **Am**
At the latter I was in-formal, at the former I wore my suit,
G7 **C**
I wore my swimming suit.

C **G7** **Am**
This summer I did swan dives, and jackknives for you all
F **C** **G7** **Am**
And once when you weren't looking, I did a cannon-ball,
G7 **C**
I did a cannon-ball. **Chorus**

Instrumental verse

The Swimming Song (Loudon Wainwright III, 1973) (G)

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Chorus

G **D7** **Em**
This summer I went swimming, this summer I might have drowned
C **G** **D7** **Em**
But I held my breath and I kicked my feet, and I moved my arms a-round,

G **D7** **Em**
This summer I swam in the ocean, and I swam in a swimming pool,
C **G** **D7** **Em**
Salt my wounds, chlorine my eyes, I'm a self-destructive fool,
D7 **G**
A self-destructive fool. **Chorus**

G **D7** **Em**
This summer I did the backstroke, and you know that's not all
C **G** **D7** **Em**
I did the breast stroke and the butterfly, and the old Australian crawl,
D7 **G**
The old Australian crawl.

G **D7** **Em**
This summer I swam in a public place, and a reservoir, to boot,
C **G** **D7** **Em**
At the latter I was in-formal, at the former I wore my suit,
D7 **G**
I wore my swimming suit.

G **D7** **Em**
This summer I did swan dives, and jackknives for you all
C **G** **D7** **Em**
And once when you weren't looking, I did a cannon-ball,
D7 **G**
I did a cannon-ball. **Chorus**

Instrumental verse