

Rita Wrote a Letter ©2025 Paul & Dan Kelly

Verse 1 (Verses are 1 bar each of C & Dm)

I really don't know how I'm talking
Six feet down and under the clay
The laws of nature forbid it
But I was never good with rules anyway
The day I walked out of prison
I knew that I was still in stir
For the crime committed I was still doing
time
Behind the walls between me and her

Chorus 1

(F) Rita wrote a (C) letter, I (G) keep it with
me every (D) day
(F) Rita wrote a letter, And (C) this is what
she had to (G) say
She said, (F) "Joe I'm really (C) sorry, but
(G) me and Dan, our love is here to (D)
stay
With the (F) kids it's getting better
And (C) now a little baby's on the (G) way"

Verse 2 (1 bar each of C & Dm)

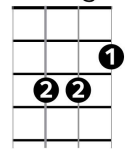
Well, they took me back on at the
restaurant
But the new cook there had stolen my
game
They put me on the dishes and the pots
and pans, I was happy being busy again
And every night when I came home
With my back and feet all aching sore
I'd lay there in Mary's spare room
Tossing 'til the break of dawn

Chorus 2

Oh, (F) Rita wrote a (C) letter
One you (G) don't want to get from your
(D) wife, When (F) Rita writes a letter
The (C) pen is sharper than the (G) knife
She said (F), 'Joe, I gave you good (C)
chances, But (G) half a year turned into
(D) two
You could (F) never hold your temper
And you (C) always made it all about (G)
you'

Instrumental (musical echoes of Gravy)

C / Dm7(f5) / Em(f7) / Ebm7(f6) Gaug
Dm7(f5) / G / Dm7 / Gaug



Verse 3 (1 bar each of C & Dm)

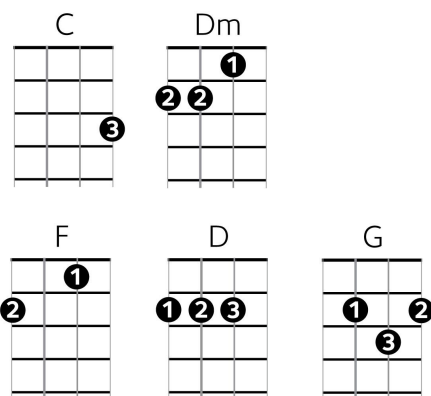
Oh, the phone calls they started to
dwindle
Once they moved further up the coast
Those silences that dragged on forever
I couldn't find the words I needed the
most,
One day I went to see an old friend
And I brought a little package home
For old times' sake, sweet oblivion
But some things you shouldn't do alone

Chorus 3

Yeah, (F) Rita wrote a (C) letter, I'm still
(G) hugging it under the (D) clay
(F) Rita wrote a letter, Deep (C) down I
know it's better this (G) way
And (F) maybe she and (C) Dan feel guilty
And the (G) children sometimes cry at (D)
night
But I (F) made my bed, I'm (C) lying in it
And I know they're gonna be (G) alright

Outro 1 bar each of F to C

Rita wrote a letter
I will always love her
Be the ghost above her
Hover all around her
But Dan, I don't forgive ya
Oh, I didn't mean to say that
It's just my mind it plays up
Multiplies each matter (fades out)



(Paul Kelly's sequel to How to Make Gravy)