

**Sign of the Times**

**Prince**

**Time: 4/4**

**Tempo: 99**

**Key: Eb**

(kit: STAX Strings & Marimba)

**Intro, count in, then:**

3M, drum and marimba only, listen for snare rat a tat cue

Oh yeah!

(bass enters, 8M with bass, C5 Eb5, if played along, listen for crash cue, then guitar tacet over vocal)

**Verse 1, 8M:**

In France, a skinny man died of a big disease with a little name  
By chance his girlfriend came across a needle and soon she did  
the same

At home there are seventeen-year-old boys and their idea of fun  
Is being in a gang called 'The Disciples'  
High on crack and totin' a machine gun

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern 4M, listen for snare cue )

Time

(1 add'l full measure, then snare cue then)

Time

(listen for crash, then guitar tacet for V2)

**Verse 2. 9M:**

Hurricane Annie ripped the ceiling of a church and killed  
everyone inside

You turn on the telly and every other story is tellin' you  
somebody died

A sister killed her baby 'cause she couldn't afford to feed it  
And yet we're sending people to the moon

In September, my cousin tried reefer for the very first time  
Now he's doing horse, it's June, unh

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern 3M, listen for snare cue )

Time

(1 add'l full measure, then snare cue then)

Times

(2M then chorus)

**Chorus :**

Fm11

It's silly, no? When a rocket ship  
explodes and everybody still wants to fly

Gm11 Fm11

But some say a man ain't happy unless a man truly dies

Gm11

Oh why?

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern)

Time

(1 add'l full measure, then snare cue then)

Time

(listen for crash, then guitar tacet for V3)

**Verse 3 4M:**

Baby make a speech, Star Wars fly  
Neighbors just shine it on  
But if a night falls and a bomb falls  
Will anybody see the dawn?

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern 3M, listen for snare cue )

Time

(1 add'l full measure, then snare cue then)

Times

(2M then chorus)

**Chorus :**

Fm11

Is it silly, no?

When a rocket blows and, and everybody still wants to fly

Some say man ain't happy truly until a man truly dies

Gm11 Fm11 Gm11

Oh why, oh why? Sign o' the times, unh

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern, 3M listen for snare cue)

Time

(1 add'l full measure, then snare cue then)

Time

(listen for crash, then guitar tacet for Outro verse)

**Outro verse:**

Sign o' the times mess with your mind  
Hurry before it's too late  
Let's fall in love, get married, have a baby  
We'll call him Nate  
If it's a boy

(resume C5, Eb5 pattern, listen for snare cue)  
Time

Time