Black Day In July (Gordon Lightfoot)

Dm       C       Dm       C
Black day in July, motor city madness
             F           Dm
Has touched the countryside
   Bb             Dm
And through the smoke and cinders,
   Bb             Dm
You can hear it far and wide
   Bb             Dm
The doors are quickly bolted
  Bb     Dm      C     Dm
And the children locked inside - Black day in July.

Dm       C       Dm       C
Black day in July, and the soul of Motor City
             F           Dm
Is bared across the land
   Bb             Dm
As the book of law and order
   Bb             Dm
Is taken in the hands
   Bb             Dm
Of the sons of the fathers
  Bb     Dm      C      Dm
who were carried to this land - Black day in July.

Dm       C       Dm       C
Black day in July, in the streets of Motor City
             F           Dm
There’s a deadly silent sound
   Bb             Dm
And the body of a dead youth,
   Bb             Dm
Lies stretched upon the ground
   Bb             Dm
Upon the filthy pavement
  Bb     Dm      C      Dm
No reason can be found - Black day in July.

Dm       C       Dm       C
Black day in July, Motor City's burning
             F           Dm
And the flames are running wild
   Bb             Dm
They reflect upon the waters
   Bb             Dm
Of the river and the lake
  Bb     Dm      Bb     Dm
And everyone is listening and everyone’s awake
  C     Dm
Black day in July.

Dm       C       Dm       C
Black day in July, the printing press is turning
             F           Dm
And the news is quickly flashed
   Bb             Dm
And you read your morning paper
   Bb             Dm
And you sip your cup of tea
  Bb     Dm      Bb     Dm
And you wonder just in passing is it him or is it me
  C     Dm
Black day in July.
Dm
In the office of the President
The deed is done the troops are sent
There's really not much choice you see
It looks to us like anarchy
And then the tanks go rolling in
To patch things up as best they can
There is no time to hesitate
The speech is made the dues can wait
C  Dm
Black day in July.

Dm  C  Dm  C
Black day in July, the streets of Motor City
F  Dm
Now are quiet and serene
Bb  Dm
But the shapes of gutted buildings
Bb  Dm
Strike terror to the heart
Bb  Dm
And you say how did it happen
Bb  Dm
And you say how did it start
Bb  Dm
Why can't we all be brothers,
Bb  Dm
Why can't we live in peace
Bb  Dm
But the hands of the have-nots
Bb  Dm  C  Dm
Keep falling out of reach - Black day in July.

Dm  C  Dm  C
Black day in July, motor city madness
F  Dm
Has touched the countryside
Bb  Dm
And through the smoke and cinders,
Bb  Dm
You can hear it far and wide
Bb  Dm
The doors are quickly bolted
Bb  Dm  C  Dm
And the children locked inside - Black day in July.
Dm  C  Dm  C (fade)
Black day in July, black day in July.