***CHUCK BERRY***

Charles Anderson "Chuck" Berry (1926) is an American guitarist, singer and songwriter, and one of the pioneers of [rock and roll](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_roll) music. With songs such as "[Maybellene](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maybellene)" (1955), "[Roll Over Beethoven](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roll_Over_Beethoven)" (1956), "[Rock and Roll Music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_Roll_Music)" (1957) and "[Johnny B. Goode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johnny_B._Goode)" (1958), Chuck Berry refined and developed [rhythm and blues](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhythm_and_blues) into the major elements that made rock and roll distinctive, with lyrics focusing on teen life and consumerism and using [guitar solos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guitar_solo) and [showmanship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guitar_showmanship) that would be a major influence on subsequent rock music.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chuck_Berry#cite_note-Campbell2008p168-1)

He traveled to Chicago in May 1955, and met [Muddy Waters](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muddy_Waters), who suggested he contact [Chess Records](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chess_Records). With Chess he recorded "Maybellene"—Berry's adaptation of the country song "[Ida Red](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_Red)"—which sold over a million copies, reaching No. 1 on Billboard's Rhythm and Blues chart. By the end of the 1950s, Berry was an established star with several hit records and film appearances to his name as well as a lucrative (making much money – lucre Italian for ‘money’) touring career.

After his release from jail for transporting an under-aged girl of 14 across state lines in 1963, Berry had several more hits, including "[No Particular Place to Go](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No_Particular_Place_to_Go)," "[You Never Can Tell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_Never_Can_Tell_%28song%29)," and "Nadine," but these did not achieve the same success of his 1950s songs. By the 1970s he was more in demand as a nostalgic live performer.

Berry was among the first musicians to be inducted into the [Rock and Roll Hall of Fame](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_Roll_Hall_of_Fame) on its opening in 1986, with the comment that he "laid the groundwork for not only a rock and roll sound but a rock and roll stance."

Berry is included in several [Rolling Stone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolling_Stone) "Greatest of All Time" lists, including being ranked fifth on their 2004 list of the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time.[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chuck_Berry#cite_note-immortals-6) [The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 500 Songs that Shaped Rock and Roll](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Rock_and_Roll_Hall_of_Fame%27s_500_Songs_that_Shaped_Rock_and_Roll) included three of Chuck Berry's songs: "[Johnny B. Goode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johnny_B._Goode)," "[Maybellene](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maybellene)," and "[Rock and Roll Music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_Roll_Music)."

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **"School Days"**Up in the mornin' and out to schoolThe teacher is teachin' the Golden RuleAmerican history and practical mathYou study' em hard and hopin' to passWorkin' your fingers right down to the boneAnd the guy behind you won't leave you aloneRing ring goes the bellThe cook in the lunchroom's ready to sellYou're lucky if you can find a seatYou're fortunate if you have time to eatBack in the classroom open you booksGee but the teacher don't knowHow mean she looksSoon as three o'clock rolls aroundYou finally lay your burden downClose up your books, get out of your seatDown the halls and into the streetUp to the corner and 'round the bendRight to the juke joint you go inDrop the coin right into the slotYou gotta hear something that's really hotWith the one you love you're makin' romanceAll day long you beenWantin' to danceFeelin' the music from head to toe'Round and 'round and 'round you goDrop the coin right into the slotYou gotta hear something that's really hotHail, hail rock'n'rollDeliver me from the days of oldLong live rock'n'rollThe beat of the drum is loud and boldRock rock rock'n'rollThe feelin' is there body and soul | mornin’ / teachin’ / hopin’/ working - drop the ‘g’ which is common in everyday EnglishGolden Rule= “Love thy (your) neighbor as thy (your) self.”‘em = them, drop the ‘th’“Ring goes the bell” - Years ago, a bell was used to call students to class, and to change classes Gee = sound word which introduces many emotions, here is surpriseThe school day in the USA was from 8 or 8:30 until 3:00 p.m.burden – s.t. that is carried with much work and often sorrow‘round = around, drop the “a”juke joint = place where music is played; ‘jukebox’: machine that has many records (45 rpm, one song) in a place (bar, restaurant) where people put in a dime or quarter into the slot to play a songgotta = got to hot = popular, good, great |
| **"Johnny B. Good"**Deep down in Louisiana close to New OrleansWay back up in the woods among the evergreensStood a log cabin made of earth and woodWhere lived a country boy named Johnny B. GoodWho never learned to read or write at allBut he could play the guitar just like ringing a bellGo, go, go Johnny go, go, go Johnny, go goGo Johnny go, go, go Johnny go goJohnny B. GoodHis mama told him "someday you will be a manAnd you will be the leader of a big bandMany people coming from miles aroundTo hear your playing music when the sun goes downMaybe someday you will be in lights saying Johnny B. Good" | Louisiana=Southern US state, poor, with many Afro-Americans (blacks)evergreens = kinds of tree that are always, forEVER green, even in winterlog cabin=early American homes made from cutting trees into logscountry boy=person grows up in rural areaBefore 1940, many Americans did not read or write, especially if they were Afro-Americans. Illiteracy rates for whites=2.0; blacks 11.5%miles=US does not use kilometerswill be in lights=lights on a theatre outside saying who is playing |