***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_(song))," 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)."

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| **"School Days"**  Up in the mornin' and out to school The teacher is teachin' the Golden Rule American history and practical math You study' em hard and hopin' to pass Workin' your fingers right down to the bone And the guy behind you won't leave you alone  Ring ring goes the bell The cook in the lunchroom's ready to sell You're lucky if you can find a seat You're fortunate if you have time to eat Back in the classroom open you books Gee but the teacher don't know How mean she looks  Soon as three o'clock rolls around You finally lay your burden down Close up your books, get out of your seat  Down the halls and into the street Up to the corner and 'round the bend Right to the juke joint you go in  Drop the coin right into the slot You gotta hear something that's really hot  With the one you love you're makin' romance All day long you been Wantin' to dance Feelin' the music from head to toe 'Round and 'round and 'round you go  Drop the coin right into the slot You gotta hear something that's really hot  Hail, hail rock'n'roll Deliver me from the days of old Long live rock'n'roll The beat of the drum is loud and bold Rock rock rock'n'roll The feelin' is there body and soul | mornin’ / teachin’ / hopin’/ working - drop the ‘g’ which is common in everyday English  Golden 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 surprise  The 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 song  gotta = got to  hot = popular, good, great |
| **"Johnny B. Good"**  Deep down in Louisiana close to New Orleans Way back up in the woods among the evergreens Stood a log cabin made of earth and wood Where lived a country boy named Johnny B. Good Who never learned to read or write at all But he could play the guitar just like ringing a bell  Go, go, go Johnny go, go, go Johnny, go go Go Johnny go, go, go Johnny go go Johnny B. Good  His mama told him "someday you will be a man And you will be the leader of a big band Many people coming from miles around To hear your playing music when the sun goes down Maybe 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 winter  log cabin=early American homes made from cutting trees into logs  country boy=person grows up in rural area  Before 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 kilometers  will be in lights=lights on a theatre outside saying who is playing |