

HEARD IT HERE

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By Terry Gross

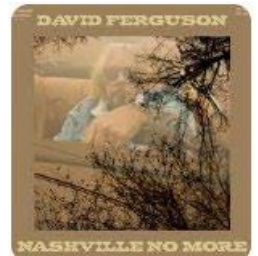
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CHARDONNAY

DAVID FERGUSON * FEATURING MARGO PRICE



The great thing about doing this article for WineMnder is what I find when searching for songs to write about. There are a lot of well-known tunes and artists, but you also come across some great unknown tunes and artists in the process. This month is one of those pleasing discoveries. The song I focused on is simply titled, **Chardonnay**, by David Ferguson. Who's David Ferguson? Whether you call him David or "Fergie," Ferguson has certainly done a thing or two during an eventful career. Based in Nashville, he's made a name for himself as an engineer, producer and musician, racking up an impressive list of credits, including two Grammy Awards, with some of the biggest names in country and bluegrass music. He palled around for years with Johnny Cash and John Prine. He worked with U2 on the band's 1988 album, **Rattle & Hum**. He even had an acting role in the 1989 Jerry Lee Lewis biopic, **Great Balls of Fire!** Ferguson came up the old-fashioned way, running errands in his late teens at "Cowboy" Jack Clement's Cowboy Arms Hotel and Recording Spa, the country music legend's home-based studio in Nashville. In 1980, Ferguson was mentored by Cowboy Jack and chief engineer Jack "Stack-a-Track" Grochmal, whose credits from the period included sessions with Johnny Cash, John Prine, Marty Stuart, Nanci Griffith and Tracy Nelson. In 2005, after having to move out of a previous location, Ferguson set-up a recording studio in Nashville with John Prine. In 2021 Ferguson released an album—**Nashville No More**—under his own name. He worked on it with a bunch of country music notables, including Margo Price, who is featured on the track "Chardonnay," which was originally written by the British songwriters Roger Cook and Hugh Cornwell. *"Chardonnay was there to comfort me during the recording of this record,"* Ferguson said. *"I'm forever thankful to Roger Cook for having the good sense to write a beautiful love song to a glass of wine."*



Here are lyrics and a link to listen to. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IO5VAkiNnE>

Chardonnay, Chardonnay
How I love you Chardonnay
As I reach to hold you in my trembling hand
In my hand, my trembling hand
Chardonnay, Chardonnay
You'll be glad to hear me say
I will never need you more than I do now
In my hand, my trembling hand
When I'm sad, sad and blue
You are my friend
Come stood be true
I dedicate this night to you
And I would like to take you home
With me, tonight.

Chardonnay, Chardonnay
I'm in love with your bouquet
You're so cold but you're so beautiful tonight
In my hand, my trembling hand
Chardonnay, Chardonnay
You don't have a lot to say
But your silence says a welcome touch tonight
In my hand, my trembling hand
When I'm sad, sad and blue
You are my friend
Come stood be true
I dedicate this song to you
And I would like to take you home
With me, tonight.
In my hand, my trembling hand
In my hand, my trembling hand