The Relativity Song
Walter Smith & Marian McKenzie 5-1-01
(Tune: “Fathoms Below” from Disney’s “The Little Mermaid”)

Intro (spoken):
C                       F
Ah! Fondly I remember those bygone days –
F7                             G7
Carefree student days, when I flitted from class to class,
F                                  G
Lecture to lab, in my racoon coat and my beanie,
C                                    F
With my slide rule in one hand and my ukelele in the other,
F7           G7
Always hopeful, waiting for that divine spark
C7                   F                           G              C
That would reveal my true path, my destiny, my academic fate!

Verse:
C                                 F                  C                         G7
I thought physics boring, I always was snoring,
C                   F                           C         G7
I thought it never would end!
C                      F                      C                                G7
I could not stay awake, oh it made my teeth ache!
C                Bb                 C
My grades showed a terrible trend!

C                                  F                                 C                     G7
It all seemed absurd, but then something occurred --
C                                  F                                 C                     G7
The clouds they parted for me!
C                                  F                                 C                     G7
I yelled “Holy cow! Yes, I see it all now!
C             Bb           C
The speed of light always is c!”
Refrain:
C                 Am Em             Am   Em
It’s glor’ious and eerie, this theory!
C    F                   Dm        G
Its light is shining on me!
C                    Am                  Dm                    G
I see time dilation and feel the elation
C    Bb      C
Of relati-vity.

C                       F                                C                 G7
Fitzgerald contraction caused quite a reaction --
C                   F                               C         G7
It made me stand up and shout!
C                       F                  C                         G7
The class was agog as I barked like a dog --
C           Bb                          C
My excitement just had to come out!

(Refrain)
C                     F                        C                         G7
Lack of synchronization gives me no frustration.
C                   F                       C         G7
Although it used to confuse.
C                              F                        C                  G7
The Lorentz transformation gives all the relations
C      Bb              C
That I’ve ever needed to use.

(Refrain)
I just love those clocks and the twin paradox,
My dreams revolve around them!
Of course there is more that I hope to explore
Like $E = mc^2$ times $m$!

(Refrain)
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