

The Radioactivity Song

by Andy "Dijon" French

Soft intro (think "ABCDEFG...")

C C F C F C G7

C C F C

Alpha, beta, gamma too

F C G7

Mr Becquerel found something

(Now power chords, rock tempo)

C e.g. bar chord like x3555x

C Fb Bb C F-F#-G-Bb

New!

C Fb Bb C F-F#-C

C Fb Bb

Alpha is emission of a helium nucleus

C F F# C

Randomly spat out from a heavy ele--ment

C Fb Bb

It attracts electrons, it is highly ionizing

C F F# C

Doesn't travel far, a bit of air will do

Bb F C

What's it all about, Curie-curiosity

Bb F C

Nuclear decay, radio-activity

C Fb Bb C F-F#-G-Bb

C Fb Bb C F-F#-C

C Fb Bb

Alpha's used in smoke alarms, spot them on the ceiling

C F F# C

Get it from an isotope of Ame-rici-um

C

Beta measures paper thickness

Fb Bb

And dates dead things

C F F# C

Not so ionizing cos' it's an electron

C Fb Bb

Beta, not like alpha, has a spectrum of energies

C F F# C

Shares its KE with an anti-neutrino

C

There's also positron decay

Fb Bb

Where the signs are, all reversed

C

But don't think about this till you've

F F# C

passed your exams!

Bb F C

What's it all about, Curie-curiosity

Bb F C

Nuclear decay, radio-activity

(Slow right down, back to normal chords)

C F C

Polonium and radium

F C G7 C

Were discovered by Irene and Eve's mum

C F C

A Nobel prize-for Chemi and Phy-sics

F C G7 C

She died from her work, aged just sixty six

Bb F C

What's it all about, Curie-curiosity

Bb F C

Nuclear decay, radio-activity

C Fb Bb C F-F#-G-Bb

C Fb Bb C F-F#-C

C Fb Bb

Gamma is emitted from an energized nucleus

C F F# C

There's no charge or mass, it's an E M wave

C Fb Bb

You need lead to stop it or, meters of concrete

C F F# C

Use it as a tracer or to sterilize some bugs

Bb F C

Look what we found from our, Curie-curiosity

Bb F C

Its very, very useful is, radio-activity

Bb F C

What's it all about, Curie-curiosity

Bb F C

Nuclear decay, radio-activity

F F# G Bb C

Andy "Dijon" French. September 2022