The Swimming Song

Words & Music: Loudon Wainwright III

This is transcribed in the November 2005 issue of Acoustic Guitar.

G C G

This summer I went swimming.

) En

This summer I might have drowned.

Em C D Em

But I held my breath and I kicked my feet & I moved my arms around.

D G

Moved my arms around.

This summer I swam in the ocean, Swam in the swimming pool. Salt in my wounds, chlorine in my eyes, I'm a self-destructive fool, Self-destructive fool.

This summer I did the backstroke, And you know that that's not all. I did the breaststroke and the butterfly & the old Australian crawl, Old Australian crawl.

This summer I swam in a public place And a reservoir to boot. At the latter, I was informal. At the former, I wore my suit. I wore my swimming suit.

This summer I did swan dives
And jackknives for you all.
And once when you weren't looking, I did a cannonball.
I did a cannonball.

Yeah, this summer I went swimming.
This summer, I might have drowned.
But I held my breath and I kicked my feet
And I moved my arms around.
I moved my arms around.