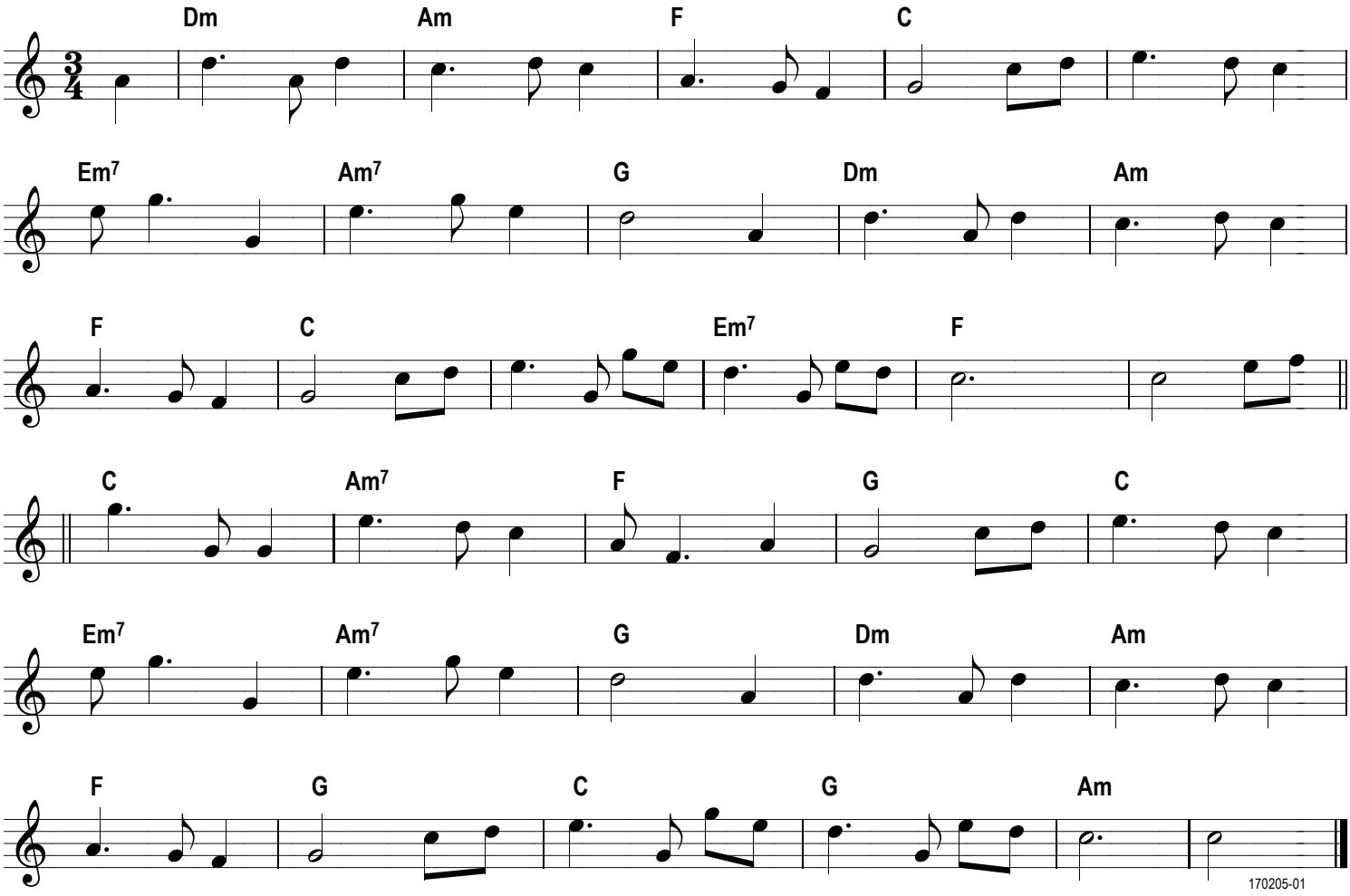The dark island