

Johnny Cash - The Mercy Seat

Tom: F

Am Em Am F

Em It all began when they took me from my home and put me on

Am Em Am Em Am7

Death Row, a crime for which I'm totally innocent, you wired,

Am Em Am Em and

I began to warm and chill their fields, to objects

Am Em Am Em

a ragged cup, a twisted mop, the face of Jesus in my soup,

Am Em Am

those sinister dinner deals, the meal trolley's wicked wheels,

Am Em

a hooked bone rising from my food,

Am Em

and all things either good or ungood.

Am Am7

And the mercy seat is waiting, and I think my head is burning,

Am7 G

and in a way I'm yearning to be done with all this weighing of the truth.

Bb F

An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth,

Am

and anyway I told the truth, and I'm not afraid to die.

Am E

I hear stories from the chamber, Christ was born into a manger,

and like some ragged stranger he died upon the cross.

Bb F

Might I say it seems so fitting in its way,

Am Em Am Em

he was a carpenter by trade, or at least that's what I'm told.

Am Em Am

My kill-hands tatooed E.V.I.L. across it's brother's fist,

Am Em Am

that filthy five! They did nothing to challenge or resist.

Am Am7

In Heaven His throne is made of gold,

the ark of His Testament is stowed,

G

a throne from which I'm told all history does unfold.

Gm Bb

It's made of wood and wire, and my body is on fire

Am

and God is never far away.

Am7

Into the mercy seat I climb, my head is shaved, my head is

G Bb

and like a moth that tries to enter the bright eye,

Gm Bb

I go shuffling out of life, just to hide in death a while,

Am

and anyway I never lied.

Am7

And the mercy seat is waiting, and I think my head is burning,

Am G

and in a way I'm yearning to be done with all this weighing of the truth.

Bb F

An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth,

Am

and anyway I told the truth, and I'm not afraid to die.

Am7

And the mercy seat is burning, and I think my head is glowing,

Am7 G

and in a way I'm hoping to be done with all this twisting of the truth.

Bb F

An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth,

Am

and anyway there was no proof, and I'm not afraid to die.

Am7

And the mercy seat is glowing, and I think my head is smoking,

Am G

and in a way I'm hoping to be done with all these looks of disbelief.

A life for a life, and a truth for a truth,

F

Am

and I've got nothing left to lose, and I'm not afraid to die.

Am7

And the mercy seat is smoking, and I think my head is melting,

Am7 G

and in a way that's helping to be done with all this twisting of the truth.

Bb

An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,

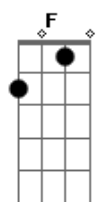
F

Am

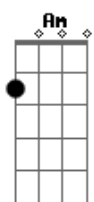
and anyway I told the truth, but I'm afraid I told a lie.

(Am Am7 Am7 G Gm Bb F Am) (3x)

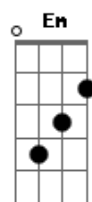
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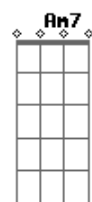
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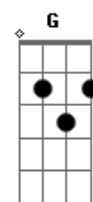
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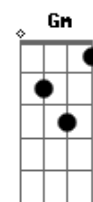
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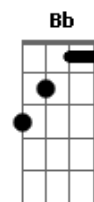
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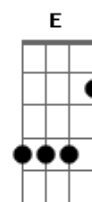
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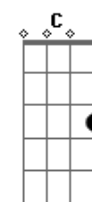
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