

# I Shot the Sheriff

Words and Music by Bob Marley

Chorus  
Moderate Reggae ♩ = 96

Gm Cm7 Gm

I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy.

Gr. 1 (clean)  
mf P.M.

Gr. 2 (clean)  
mf

Cm7

I shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot the

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E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

say they want to bring me in guil - ty, —      for the kil - lin' of the dep - u - ty, —

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line in G minor, featuring a melodic line with triplets and slurs. The middle staff shows guitar chord diagrams for E♭maj9, Dm7, Gm, E♭maj9, and Dm7. The bottom staff is the bass line, primarily using block chords.

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm

— for the life — of the dep - u - ty, —      But I say, —

The second system of music also consists of three staves. The top staff continues the vocal line with a triplet and a slur. The middle staff shows guitar chord diagrams for Gm, E♭maj9, Dm7, and Gm. The bottom staff continues the bass line with block chords.

N.C.

Chorus

Gm

I \_\_\_ shot the sher - iff, \_\_\_

End Rhy. Fig. 1 Rhy. Fig. 2

Cm7

Gm

but I swear it was in self de - fense.

Cm7 Gm

I shot the sheriff, and they say it is a capital offense. but I swear it was in self defense.

2nd time, Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fill 1 To Coda 1 Verse Gr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

E<sup>b</sup>maj9 Dm7 Gm

2. Sheriff John Brown always hated me.

End Rhy. Fig. 2

Rhy. Fill 1  
Gr. 1

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

For what, I \_\_\_\_\_ don't know. \_\_\_\_\_ And ev - 'ry time \_\_\_\_\_ that I

Gr. 1

6 6 7 5 5 10 10 10 10 6 6 7 5 5

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm

plant a seed, he said, "Kill it be - fore \_\_\_\_\_ it grows." He

10 10 10 10 6 6 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 6 6 7 5 5

*D.S. al Coda 1*

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      NC.

said, "Kill it be - fore \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ grows." I \_\_\_\_\_ say,

let ring -----

6 7 7 5 3 3 5 3 1 3 5 3 1 3

⊕ Coda 1

Verse

Gr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

3. Free-dom came my way one day, an' I start-ed out of town,

Gr. 1

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm

— yeah. All of a sud-den, I see sher-iff John Brown,

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

aim-in' to shoot me down, so I shot, I shot him

Gm NC.

down. \_ An' I say, \_\_\_\_\_

1/4

♩ ♩ Chorus

1st time, Gtr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 2  
2nd time, Gtr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 2 (1st 6 meas.)

(Organ) Gm Cm7

I shot the sher - iff, \_\_\_\_\_ but I { did not } shoot the  
{ did - n't }

Gm

dep - u - ty. \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ shot the sher - iff, \_\_\_\_\_

To Coda 2 ⊕

Cm7 Gm7

but I { did - n't shoot the } dep - u - ty.  
{ did not shoot no }

**Verse**

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

4. Re - flex - es got the bet - ter of me, \_ and what \_ is \_ to be,

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of the musical score. The top line is the vocal melody in G minor, with lyrics '4. Re - flex - es got the bet - ter of me, \_ and what \_ is \_ to be,'. Above the staff are chord symbols: E♭maj9, Dm7, Gm, E♭maj9, and Dm7. The second line is for Guitar 1 (Gr. 1), featuring a melodic line with triplets and a wavy vibrato effect. The third line is for Guitar 2 (Gr. 2), showing a bass line with chords and some muted notes. Fingering numbers (1-5) and a 1/2 note marking are present in the guitar parts.

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm

must \_ be \_ Ev - 'ry day the buck - et goes to the well, \_

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

Detailed description: This system contains the next two lines of the musical score. The top line is the vocal melody in G minor, with lyrics 'must \_ be \_ Ev - 'ry day the buck - et goes to the well, \_'. Above the staff are chord symbols: Gm, E♭maj9, Dm7, and Gm. The second line is for Guitar 1 (Gr. 1), featuring a melodic line with triplets and a wavy vibrato effect. The third line is for Guitar 2 (Gr. 2), showing a bass line with chords and some muted notes. Fingering numbers (1-5) and a 1/4 note marking are present in the guitar parts.

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

but one day, the bot - tom will drop - out.      Yes, one day the bot - tom will

n - - | \*S S S 1/4 1/4

6 6 5 5 7 6 7 6 6 (6) 6 6 6 5 5

\*S = Snap B string

let ring - - - - - | let ring - - - - - | let ring - - - - - | let ring - - - - - |

6 0 7 5 7 5 3 3 3 3 3 3 6 8 7 5 7 4

*D.S.S. al Coda 2*

Gm      N.C.

drop out.      But I say,

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 5 3 5 3 5 3 1 3 5 3 1 3

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 5 3 3 5 3 1 4 5 3 1

⊕ Coda 2

Gm Outro  
Ebmaj9 Dm7

dep - u - ty, — oh — no. —

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

let ring -----| let ring -----|

Gm Ebmaj9 Dm7 Gm

let ring -----| let ring -----|

E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

let ring -----

let ring ----- let ring -----

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7

*Begin fade*

1/4

Gm      E♭maj9      Dm7      Gm

*Fade out*

1/4