

I Shall Be Released

Words & Music:
Bob Dylan

Once again, from the terrific Dylanchords.com site (on hiatus), an explanation for why you find so many versions of this song: "Recorded during The Basement sessions (1967) and released on The Bootleg Series 1-3 (1991). A different version was recorded Oct 1971 with Happy Traum (banjo) and released on Greatest Hits II (1971). A live version was released on Live 1975 (2002). Tabbed by Eyolf Østrem."

"Basement" version:

[Capo 2nd fret (sounding key A major)]

G C/G G

G Am Bm Am G
They say ev'rything can be replaced, yet ev'ry distance is not near.
G Am Bm Am G
So I remember ev'ry face of ev'ry man who put me here.

CHORUS:

G C *) [*] = Am in subsequent verses]

I see my light come shining

Bm D *) G

From the west unto the east.

G Am Bm D/A G

Any day now, any day now, I shall be released.

They say ev'ry man needs protection, they say ev'ry man must fall.
Yet, I swear I see my reflection some place so high above this wall.

CHORUS:

Now, yonder standing here in this lonely crowd, a man who swears he's not to blame.
All day long I hear his voice shouting so loud, crying out that he was framed.

CHORUS:

Budokan version:

G#m7 = 464444 F#m7 = 242222 A#dim = x12020 B11 = x22222

E G#m F#m E G#m F#m
They say ev'rything can be replaced, yet ev'ry distance is not near.
E G#m F#m E G#m F#m
So I remember ev'ry face of ev'ry man who put me here.

CHORUS:

E G#m7 F#m7 D A E
I see my light come shining from the west unto the east.
E G#m7 F#m7 E E/G# A A#dim E/B [B11 E]
Any day now, any day now, I shall be released.

Alternate lyrics:

From the Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute, Washington, DC January 20, 1986:

They say every man needs protection
They say that every man must fall
I swear I see my own reflection
Somewhere so high above this wall

I see my light come shinin'
I don't need no doctor or no priest
Any day now, any day now
I shall be released

It don't take much to be a criminal
One wrong move and they'll turn you into one
At first decay is just subliminal
To protect yourself and your forever on the run

I see my light come shinin'
I don't need no doctor or no priest
Any day now, any day now
I shall be released

He will find you where your stayin'
Even in the arms of somebody elses wife
Your laughin' now, you should be prayin'
To be in the midnight hour of your life

I see my light come shinin'
I don't need no doctor or no priest
Any day now, any day now
I shall be released