

JoniMitchell.com Transcription for Guitar

I Had A King

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DADDAD, 'Joni' Tuning: x75075, Capo 7

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This guitar tuning, which really brings out the ringing tones and droning effects of this dark song, is known as "DOUBLE DADS" or "DADDAD". The capo should be up 7 frets. Like in many of Joni's songs, open strings are sometimes played between the chord changes, in which I have indicated in parentheses. Additionally, the symbol A = 10th fret, and the symbol C = 12th fret.

Intro: 055400 (x0xxxx) 033200 (x0xxxx)

055400 (x0xxxx) 033200 I had a king in a tenement castle, Lately he's taken to painting the

070700 080800 pastel walls brown, He's taken the curtains down,

000000 0C0000 000000 0A0000 000000 080000 He's swept with the broom of contempt, And the rooms have an empty

 070000
 000000
 0C0000
 000000
 0A0000

 ring,
 He's cleaned with the tears
 of an actor who

000000 080000 070000 070000 070000 000000 fears for the laughter's sting

(chorus)

055000 000055 000054 00005x 000000 I can't go back there any more,

055000 000055 000054 00005x 000000 You know my keys wont fit the door, 055000 000055 000054 00005x 000000 You know my thoughts don't fit the man,

033200 (x0xxxx) 055400 (x0xxxx) They never can, they never can

(for ending on third chorus add:)

033200 (x0xxxx) 055400 000200 They never can, They never can

Add'l lyrics:

I had a king dressed in drip-dry and paisley Lately he's taken to saying I'm crazy and blind He lives in another time Ladies in gingham still blush While he sings them of wars and wine But I in my leather and lace I can never become that kind _____ (chorus)

I had a king in a salt-rusted carriage Who carried me off to his country for marriage too soon Beware of the power of moons There's no one to blame No there's no one to name as a traitor here The king's on the road And the queen's in the grove till the end of the year _____ (chorus)