



JoniMitchell.com Transcription for Guitar

# Slouching Towards Bethlehem

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DAEGAD, 'Joni' Tuning: D77325

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Transcription originally by Sue McNamara, modified by Paul Winkler (zarmzarm@hotmail.com), with some ideas from Marian Russell's version.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem is one of my favorite songs, and I was rather stumped as to how to play it, so I was thrilled to find a couple of versions on the web. Just getting the right (?) tuning was a huge help! But neither Marian's nor Sue's version sounded exactly right to me, so I couldn't resist monkeying with it a bit...

I'm still not sure if the choruses are exactly right, but I think the intro is pretty accurate now, and the verses sound right except that I'm not sure about the x00020 chord.

Tuning: DAEGAD  
D77325

Note: 2h0 = second fret hammer off

Intro:

```
|||||||  |||||||  |||||||  || | | ||  || | | ||
098700  555400  003300  ||2h02h0||  ||2h02h0||
|||||||  |||||||  |||||||  || | | ||  || | | ||
```

```
|||||||
999900
|||||||
Turning and turning
```

```
|||||||  || | | ||
x00020  00 12 11 00
|||||||  || | | ||
Within the widening gyre
```

```
|||||||  |||||||  || | | ||
999900  x00020  00 12 11 00
|||||||  |||||||  || | | ||
The falcon cannot hear the falconer
```

||||||  
999900  
||||||  
Things fall apart

||||||                    || | | ||  
x00020                    00 12 11 00  
||||||                    || | | ||  
The center cannot hold

||||||  
999900  
||||||  
And a blood dimmed tide

||||||                    || | | ||  
x00020                    00 2h0 2h0 00  
||||||                    || | | ||  
Is loosed upon the world

Verse Two: same chords as above

Nothing is sacred  
The ceremony sinks  
Innocence is drowned  
In anarchy  
The best lack conviction  
Given some time to think  
And the worst are full of passion  
Without mercy

Chorus:

||||||                    ||||||                    ||||||  
555400                    777600                    999900  
||||||                    ||||||                    ||||||  
Surely some revelation is at hand

||||||  
999900  
||||||  
Surely it's the second coming

                          ||||||  
                          777600  
                          ||||||  
And wrath has finally taken form

||||||                    ||||||  
555400                    777600  
||||||                    ||||||

For what is this rough beast

||||||  
999900  
||||||

Its hour come at last

|||||| | | | | | | | |  
777600 999900  
|||||| | | | | | | | |  
Slouching toward Bethlehem to be born

||||||  
7776||  
||||||  
Slouching toward Bethlehem

|||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
098700 555400 003300 ||2h02h0|| ||2h02h0||  
|||||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
to be born

Hoping and hoping  
As if by my weak faith  
The spirit of this world  
Would heal and rise  
Vast are the shadows  
That straddle and strafe  
And struggle in the darkness  
Troubling my eyes

Shaped like a lion  
It has the head of a man  
With a gaze as blank  
And pitiless as the sun  
And it's moving its slow thighs  
Across the desert sands  
Through dark indignant  
Reeling falcons

Surely some revelation is at hand  
Surely it's the second coming  
And wrath has finally taken form  
For what is this rough beast  
Its hour come at last  
Slouching towards Bethlehem to be born  
Slouching towards Bethlehem to be born

Raging and raging  
It rises from the deep  
Opening its eyes  
After twenty centuries  
Vexed to a nightmare  
Out of a stony sleep  
By a rocking cradle  
By the Sea of Galilee

Surely some revelation is at hand  
Surely it's the second coming  
And wrath has finally taken form  
For what is this rough beast  
Its hour come at last  
Slouching towards Bethlehem to be born  
Slouching towards Bethlehem to be born

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