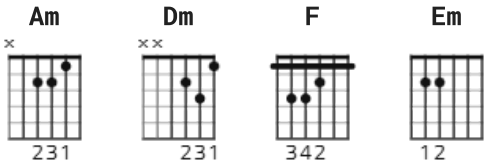
I Shot The Sheriff Chords by Eric Clapton

from the album 461 Ocean Boulevard (1974)



Chorus

Am Dm Am
I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy
Am Dm Am
I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy

Verse 1

F Em Am
All around in my home town
F Em Am
They're trying to track me down
F Em Am
They say they want to bring me in guilty
F Em Am
For the killing of a deputy
F Em Am
For the life of a deputy But I say?

Chorus

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

Verse 2

F Em Am
Sheriff John Brown always hated me
F Em Am
For what I don't know
F Em Am
Every time that I plant a seed
F Em Am
He said "Kill it before it grows"
F Em Am
He said "Kill it before it grows" I say!

Chorus

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Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I swear it was in self-defense
Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I swear it was in self-defense
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Verse 3

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F      Em          Am
Freedom came my way one day
F      Em           Am
And I started out of town yeah
F        Em           Am
All of a sudden I see sheriff John Brown
F         Em       Am
Aiming to shoot me down
   F    Em    Am
So I shot, I shot him down    I say!
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Chorus

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Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy
Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot the deputy
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Verse 4

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F     Em          Am
Reflexes got the better of me
F     Em          Am
And what is to be must be
F     Em             Am
Every day the bucket falls to the well
F              Em          Am
But one day the bottom will drop out
F        Em                Am
Yes, one day the bottom will drop out   But I say
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Chorus

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Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy, oh no
Am                  Dm                        Am
I shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot no deputy, oh no
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Ending

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Dm  Em  Am
Dm  Em  Am  (repeat and fade)
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