

It Ain't Necessarily So

George Gershwin

Ira Gershwin

(from "Porgy And Bess")

Du Bose & Dorothy Heyward

(As played by Joe Henderson)

Medium

A

It ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly so, It ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly
 (Oh,) Jo - nah he lived in a whale, Oh, Jo - nah he lived in a

so, The things that you're li' - ble to read in the Bi - ble, it
 whale, For he made his home in that fish - 's ab - do - men. Oh,

ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly so, _____ Li'l
 Jo - nah he lived in a whale. _____ Li'l

Da - vid was small, but oh my! Li'l Da - vid was small, but oh
 Mo - ses was found in a stream, Li'l Mo - ses was found in a

my! He fought big Go - li - ath who lay down an' di - eth! Li'l
 stream. He float - ed on wa - ter till Ole Phar - oah's daugh - ter She

Da - vid was small, but oh my! _____ To
 fished him, she says, from that stream. _____

get in - to Hea - ven don't snap for a se - ven! Live clean! Don't have no fault! Oh,

I takes that gos - pel when - ev - er it's pos' - ble, But with a grain of salt. Me -
 (It)

thus' - la lived nine hun - dred years. Me - thus' - la lived nine hun - dred
 (ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly so, It ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly

GMI⁷ C⁹ C⁹ Db⁹ C⁹ Db⁹

years. But who calls that liv - in' when no gal will give in, To
so, They tell all you chil - lun the de - vil's a vil - lain, But

A^{7(b9)} D^{7(#9)} ⊕ | GMI⁷ C⁹ | 2. GMI⁷ C⁹

Go on
for solos

no man what's nine hun - dred years? Oh, years?
tain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly (so.)

(Solos)
D GMI⁷ C⁹ C⁹ Db⁹ A^{7(b9)} D^{7(#9)} GMI⁷ C⁹

E BbMI⁷ Eb⁷ AMI⁷ D⁷ GMA⁷ GMI⁷ C⁷ FMA⁷ Bb⁹ A¹³ Eb^{9(#11)} D^{7(b9)}

F GMI⁷ C⁹ C⁹ Db⁹ A^{7(b9)} D^{7(#9)} GMI⁷ C⁷

Solo on DEF
After solos, D.C. al Coda

⊕ GMI⁷ C⁹ G AMI^{7(b5)} D^{7(b9)} GMA⁷ CMA⁷ B⁹

years? I'm preach-in' this ser-mon to show — It ain't nes - sa, ain't nes - sa,

EMI⁷ AMI^{7(b5)} GMA⁷ FMA^{9(#11)} G^{6/9} EMI¹¹

ain't nes - sa, ain't nes - sa, ain't ne - ces - sa - ri - ly so.

(Interlude) (Intro in Joe Henderson's version, with first 2 bars repeated)
Eb⁷ D^b/F GbMI Eb⁷/G Ab Eb⁷/Bb B^{o7} Ab/C)

Up Tempo Eb^{7(#9)} Ab⁷ Ab/C)

Wa - doo, — Wa - doo, — Zim bam bod-dle - oo, Zim bam bod-dle - oo,

(D⁷ EMI⁷ F^{o7} D⁷/F#) G^{7(#9)} D^{7(b9)}

Hoo-dle ah da wa da, Hoo-dle ah da wa da, Scat-ty wah, — Scat-ty wah. — (instr.) (to A)

The Interlude was originally inserted between repeated A sections (with subsequent verses) (A, Interlude, A, Interlude, ABCG) Many colloquial words have been normalized. ("That" for "Dat". "Heaven" for "Hehben". etc.)