

Behind Blue Eyes

Words and Music by Pete Townshend

Intro

Moderately Slow ♩ = 60

Esus4

1. N-

mf
let ring throughout

T
A
B

Verse

Em

G

D

Dsus4

D

no one knows what it's like to be the bad man, to be the

2. See additional lyrics

sad man behind blue eyes. N-

Cadd9

Asus2

sad man behind blue eyes. N-

Em G D Dsus4 D

no one knows_ what it's like_ to be hat - ed, to be

The first system of music features a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are "no one knows_ what it's like_ to be hat - ed, to be". The guitar accompaniment is in the same key and features a steady eighth-note pattern. Below the guitar staff are chord diagrams for Em (000200), G (023200), D (022200), Dsus4 (022200), and D (022200).

Cadd9 Asus2

fat - ed_ to tell - ing on - ly lies. But my

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "fat - ed_ to tell - ing on - ly lies. But my". The guitar accompaniment remains consistent. Chord diagrams for Cadd9 (000200) and Asus2 (022200) are provided below the guitar staff.

Chorus

C D G C/G G C D

dreams, they aren't as emp - ty as my con - science seems to be.

The chorus section begins with the lyrics "dreams, they aren't as emp - ty as my con - science seems to be.". The guitar accompaniment features a more complex rhythmic pattern with chords. Chord diagrams for C (022000), D (022200), G (023200), C/G (022000), G (023200), C (022000), and D (022200) are shown below the guitar staff.

E A/E E Bm

I have hours on - ly lone-

The final system of music includes the lyrics "I have hours on - ly lone-". The guitar accompaniment continues with a consistent rhythmic pattern. Chord diagrams for E (022100), A/E (022100), E (022100), and Bm (021200) are provided below the guitar staff.

C D Dsus4 D

ly. — My love is ven - geance that's nev - er

1. Asus2

free. 2. N -

2. Asus2

free. Hmm.

Moderately ♩ = 120

E5 Bm A E5 Bm A E5

Verse

3. When my fist clenches, crack it open before I use —

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: "3. When my fist clenches, crack it open before I use —". The bottom staff is a guitar accompaniment with a bass clef. Chords are indicated above the staff: E5, Bm, A, E5, Bm. The guitar part consists of a series of chords and rhythmic patterns, including a triplet in the fourth measure.

— it and lose my cool. When I smile, tell me some bad —

This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "— it and lose my cool. When I smile, tell me some bad —". The bottom staff continues the guitar accompaniment. Chords indicated are G5, D, Bm, A, D. The guitar part continues with similar chord and rhythm patterns.

— news before I laugh and act like a fool. —

This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "— news before I laugh and act like a fool. —". The bottom staff continues the guitar accompaniment. Chords indicated are Bm, A, E5, Bm. The guitar part includes a triplet in the fourth measure.

And if I swallow anything e -

This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: "And if I swallow anything e -". The bottom staff continues the guitar accompaniment. Chords indicated are A, E5, Bm, A, E5. The guitar part continues with similar chord and rhythm patterns.

Bm G5 D Bm

- vil, put your fin - ger down my throat. And if I shiv -

2 2 2 3 3 3 2 2 3 3 2 2 3 3 2 2 3

A D Bm A E5

- er, please give me a blan - ket, keep me warm, let me wear your coat.

3 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 3 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

Interlude

E5 Bm A E5 Bm

2 2 2 0 2 7 7 7 7 9 9 9 7 11 12 12 11 (11) 11 9 11

A B A G5 D B

9 9 11 9 11 9 4 4 4 2 3 3 3 2 2 2 4 4 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 2

A G5 D B A G5 D B

4 4 4 2

X

Outro
Half-time ♩ = 60

B/A Em G

N - no one knows what it's like to be the

4 4 4 2

0 4 4 4 0

0 2 2 3 3

D Dsus4 D Cadd9 Asus2

bad man, to be the sad man behind blue eyes.

0 2 3 3 2 0 2 3 2 3 2 0 2

3 0 3 0 0 0 3 0 0

Additional Lyrics

- N-no one knows what it's like to feel these feelings
Like I do, and I blame you.
N-no one bites back as hard on their anger,
None of my pain and woe can show through.