

**BIRD ON A WIRE**

Johnny Cash / Leonard Cohen

**A** **E** **A** **D**  
LIKE A BIRD ON THE WIRE, LIKE A DRUNK IN A MIDNIGHT CHOIR  
**A** **E** **As** **A**  
I HAVE TRIED IN MY WAY TO BE FREE  
**A** **E** **A** **D**  
LIKE A WORM ON A HOOK, LIKE A KNIGHT FROM SOME OLD-FASHIONED BOOK  
**A** **E** **As** **A**  
I HAVE SAVED ALL MY RIBBONS FOR THEE  
**D** **A**  
IF I, IF I HAVE BEEN UNKIND  
**Bm** **A**  
I HOPE THAT YOU CAN JUST LET IT GO BY  
**D** **A**  
IF I, IF I HAVE BEEN UNTRUE,  
**Bm** **E**  
I HOPE YOU KNOW IT WAS NEVER TO YOU.

LIKE A BABY STILLBORN, LIKE A BEAST WITH HIS HORN  
I HAVE TORN EVERYONE WHO REACHED OUT FOR ME.  
BUT I SWEAR BY THIS SONG AND BY ALL THAT I HAVE DONE WRONG  
I WILL MAKE IT ALL UP TO THEE.

I SAW A BEGGAR LEANING ON HIS WOODEN CRUTCH  
HE SAID TO ME, "YOU MUST NOT ASK FOR SO MUCH."  
AND A PRETTY WOMAN LEANING IN HER DARKENED DOOR,  
SHE CRIED TO ME, "HEY, WHY NOT ASK FOR MORE?"  
**A** **E** **A** **D**  
LIKE A BIRD ON THE WIRE, LIKE A DRUNK IN A MIDNIGHT CHOIR  
**A** **E** **D** **A**  
I HAVE TRIED IN MY WAY TO BE FREE