**Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen**

**Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen ((Official Audio)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttEMYvpoR-k>

**Lyrics reproduced on Official Audio YouTube page:**

1. Now I've heard there was a secret chord

2. Your faith was strong but you needed proof

3. Baby I have been here before

4. There was a time you let me know

5. You say I took the name in vain

6. Maybe there's a God above

7. I did my best, it wasn't much

The full lyrics are reproduced on the following page.

**Verses performed on the Official Audio: 1, 2, 5, 7**

1. Now I've heard there was a secret chord

2. Your faith was strong but you needed proof

5. You say I took the name in vain

7. I did my best, it wasn't much

**Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen (Live in London) (Official Video)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrLk4vdY28Q>

**Verses performed: 1, 2, 6, 3, 4, 7**

1. Now I've heard there was a secret chord

2. Your faith was strong but you needed proof

6. Maybe there's a God above

[Instrumental]

[Chorus]

3. Baby I have been here before

4. There was a time you let me know

7. I did my best, it wasn't much

**Note:**

The song was originally written in the key of C Major in 12/8 time. Cohen wrote around 80 draft verses for "Hallelujah", with one writing session at the Royalton Hotel in New York where he was reduced to sitting on the floor in his underwear, banging his head on the floor.

Following his original 1984 studio-album version, Cohen performed the original song on his world tour in 1985, but live performances during his 1988 and 1993 tours almost invariably contained a quite different set of lyrics. Numerous singers mix lyrics from both versions, and occasionally make direct lyric changes

No complete set of the verses has been published to my knowledge. See: [Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen song)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallelujah_(Leonard_Cohen_song)), Wikipedia.

**Full Lyrics**

Now I've heard there was a secret chord

That David played, and it pleased the Lord

But you don't really care for music, do you?

It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth

The minor fall, the major lift

The baffled king composing "Hallelujah"

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Your faith was strong but you needed proof

You saw her bathing on the roof

Her beauty and the moonlight overthrew you

She tied you to a kitchen chair

She broke your throne and she cut your hair

And from your lips she drew the Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Baby I have been here before

I know this room, I've walked this floor

I used to live alone before I knew you

I've seen your flag on the marble arch

Love is not a victory march

It's a cold and it's a broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

There was a time you let me know

What's really going on below

But now you never show it to me, do you?

And remember when I moved in you

The holy dove was moving too

And every breath we drew was Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

You say I took the name in vain

I don't even know the name

But if I did, well really, what's it to you?

There's a blaze of light in every word

It doesn't matter which you heard

The holy or the broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Maybe there's a God above

But all I've ever learned from love

Was how to shoot at somebody who outdrew you

And it's not a cry that you hear at night

It's not somebody who's seen the light

It's a cold and it's a broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

I did my best, it wasn't much

I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch

I've told the truth, I didn't come to fool you

And even though it all went wrong

I'll stand before the Lord of Song

With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

**1984 Lyrics from "Various Positions"**

**(December 1984 - February 1985)**

**Side B, #5. Hallelujah 4:34**

Now I've heard there was a secret chord

That David played, and it pleased the Lord

But you don't really care for music, do you?

It goes like this

The fourth, the fifth

The minor fall, the major lift

The baffled king composing Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Your faith was strong but you needed proof

You saw her bathing on the roof

Her beauty and the moonlight overthrew you

She tied you to a kitchen chair

She broke your throne, and she cut your hair

And from your lips she drew the Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

You say I took the name in vain

I don't even know the name

But if I did, well really, what's it to you?

There's a blaze of light in every word

It doesn't matter which you heard

The holy or the broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

I did my best, it wasn't much

I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch

I've told the truth, I didn't come to fool you

And even though it all went wrong

I'll stand before the Lord of Song

With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah

[https://leonardcohenfiles.com/album8.html#61](https://leonardcohenfiles.com/album8.html" \l "61)

**Lyrics 1988 from "Cohen Live" (June 1994)**

**“Hallelujah,” 6:54 – Austin, 31 October 1988**

Baby, I've been here before.

I know this room, I've walked this floor.

I used to live alone before I knew you.

Yeah I've seen your flag on the marble arch,

But listen, love is not some kind of victory march,

No it's a cold and it's a very broken Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, (Hallelujah...)

There was a time you let me know

What's really going on below,

Ah but now you never show it to me, do you?

Yeah but I remember, yeah when I moved in you,

And the holy dove, she was moving too,

Yes every single breath that we drew was Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Maybe there's a God above,

As for me, all I've ever seemed to learn from love

Is how to shoot at someone who outdrew you.

Yeah but it's not a complaint that you hear tonight,

It's not the laughter of someone who claims to have seen the light

No it's a cold and it's a very lonely Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

I did my best, it wasn't much.

I couldn't feel, so I learned to touch.

I've told the truth, I didn't come all this way to fool you.

Yeah even tough it all went wrong

I'll stand right here before the Lord of Song

With nothing on my lips but Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

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