

You Got To Walk That Lonesome Valley

This was played in G, standard tuning, and was John's version of a song popular in both the African-American and White Country traditions. The way John Hurt takes the sixth string along for the ride when the melody ascends the first string is a technique he also used in his solo to "Casey Jones." The muted bass notes are indicated in the TAB by the symbol ~, above the affected notes.

Key of G, standard tuning

Mississippi John Hurt

G

VERSE

D

G

5

mute

8

SL

11

14

17

VERSE TWO

20

23 G

26

29 D

32 G

YOU GOT TO WALK THAT LONESOME VALLEY

(Legends of Country Blues Guitar: Vestapol 13003)

You got to walk that lonesome valley
Well, you got to walk it for yourself
Ain't nobody else can walk it for you
You got to walk that valley for yourself.

My mother had to walk that lonesome valley
Well, she had to walk it for herself
It's nobody else could walk it for her
Yes, she had to walk that valley for herself.

Oh yes, you got to walk that lonesome valley
Well, you got to walk it for yourself
It's nobody else can walk it for you
You got to walk that valley for yourself.

My father had to walk that lonesome valley
He had to walk it for hisself
It's nobody else could walk it for him
He had to walk that valley for hisself.

Oh, Jesus had to walk that lonesome valley
He had to walk it for hisself
It's nobody else could walk it for him
He had to walk that valley for hisself.

Oh yes, you got to walk that lonesome valley
Well, you got to walk it for yourself
It's nobody else can walk it for you
You got to walk that valley for yourself.