

Lyrics to Hallelujah, Leonard Cohen
from 2009 performance in London.
RIP 7 November 2016

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

Now maybe there's a God above
As for me all I ever learned from love
Is how to shoot someone who outdrew you
But it's not a cry that you hear tonight
It's not some pilgrim who claims to have seen the light
And it's a cold and very broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Oh people, I've been here before
I know this room and I've walked this floor
You see, I used to live alone before I knew you
And I've seen your flag on the marble arch
But this is love - love is not some kind of victory march
No, it's a cold and a very lonely Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

There was a time you let me know
What's really going on below
But now now you never even show it to me do you?
I remember when I moved in you
And the holy dove she was moving too
And every single breath that we drew was 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 to fool you
And even though it all went wrong
I'll stand right here before the Lord of Song
With nothing nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

(extra verse)

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

Rolling Stone article
"How Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah' brilliantly mingled
Sex, Religion
<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/news/exclusive-book-excerpt-leonard-cohen-writes-hallelujah-in-the-holy-or-the-broken-20121203>