

# I Hung My Head

Johnny Cash

**C**

1. Early one morning

**F**

With time to kill

**Am**

I borrowed Jebb's rifle

**F**

And sat on a hill

I saw a lone rider

Crossing the plain

I drew a bead on him

To practice my aim

**Dm**

- R1: My brother's rifle

**G**

Went off in my hand

A shot rang out

**C**

Across the land

**F**

The horse, he kept running

**Am**

The rider was dead

**C**

I hung my head

**F**

I hung my head

2. I set off running  
To wake from the dream  
My brother's rifle  
Went into the sheen

I kept on running

Into the south lands

That's where they found me

My head in my hands

- R2: The sheriff he asked me  
Why had I run  
And then it come to me  
Just what I had done  
And all for no reason  
Just one piece of lead  
I hung my head  
I hung my head

3. Here in the court house  
The whole town was there  
I see the judge  
High up in the chair

Explain to the court room

What went on in your mind

And we'll ask the jury

What verdict they find

R3: I felt the power  
Of death and life  
I orphaned his children  
I widowed his wife  
I begged their forgiveness  
I wish I was dead  
I hung my head  
I hung my head

I hung my head  
I hung my head

4. Early one morning  
With time to kill  
I see the gallows  
Up on a hill

And out in the distance  
A trick of the brain  
I see a lone rider  
Crossing the plain

R4: And he'd come to fetch me  
To see what they'd done  
And we'd ride together  
To kingdom come  
I prayed for god's mercy

**F**

For soon I'd be dead  
I hung my head  
I hung my head

I hung my head  
I hung my head