

# Man In Black

*Johnny Cash*

**Boom ditty Boom ditty Boom ditty Boom ditty**

**1            2            3            4**

**Bb/// Bb///**

Well you **[Bb]** wonder why I always dress in black  
Why you never see bright colors on my **[C]** back  
And **[Eb]** why does my ap- **[Bb]** pearance seem to **[Eb]** have that sombe **[Bb]** tone  
Well there's a **[C]** reason for the things that I have **[F7]** on

I **[Bb]** wear the black for the poor and the beaten down  
Living on the **hopeless hungry** side of **[C]** town  
I **[Eb]** wear it for the **[Bb]** prisoner who has **[Eb]** long paid for his **[Bb]** crime  
But is **[C]** still in there as a victim of the **[F7]** time

I **[Bb]** wear the black for those who've never read  
Or listened to the words that Jesus **[C]** said  
A- **[Eb]** bout the road to **[Bb]** happiness, through **[Eb]** love and chari- **[Bb]** ty  
Why you would **[C]** think he's talking straight to you and **[F7]** me

Well we're **[Bb]** doing mighty fine, I do suppose  
In our streak-of-lightning cars and fancy **[C]** clothes  
But **[Eb]** **just** so we're re- **[Bb]** minded of the **[Eb]** ones who are held **[Bb]** back  
Up **[C]** front there ought to be a man in **[F7]** black

I **[Bb]** wear it for the sick and lonely old  
For the reckless ones whose bad trips left them **[C]** cold  
I **[Eb]** wear the black in **[Bb]** mourning for the **[Eb]** lives that could have **[Bb]** been  
Each **[C]** week we lose a hundred fine young **[F7]** men

And I **[Bb]** wear it for the thousands who have died  
Believing that the Lord was on their **[C]** side  
I **[Eb]** wear it for a- **[Bb]** nother hundred **[Eb]** thousand who have **[Bb]** died  
**[C]** Believing that we **all** were on their **[F7]** side

Well, there're **[Bb]** things that never will be right I know  
And things need changing everywhere you **[C]** go  
But '**[Eb]** till we start to **[Bb]** make a move to **[Eb]** make a few things **[Bb]** right  
You'll **[C]** never see me wear a suit of **[F7]** white

And I'd **[Bb]** love to wear a rainbow every day  
And tell the world that everything's o- **[C]** kay  
But I'll **[Eb]** try to carry **[Bb]** off a little **[Eb]** darkness on my **[Bb]** back  
Till things are **[C]** brighter, **[F7]** I'm the man in **[Bb]** black **Bb F Bb**

