

# I Hung My Head

Johnny Cash

1. Early one morning  
With time to kill  
I borrowed Jebb's rifle  
And sat on a hill  
  
I saw a lone rider  
Crossing the plain  
I drew a bead on him  
To practice my aim
- R1: My brother's rifle  
Went off in my hand  
A shot rang out  
Across the land  
The horse, he kept running  
The rider was dead  
I hung my head  
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  
For soon I'd be dead  
I hung my head  
I hung my head

I hung my head  
I hung my head