

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL *Lynyrd Skynyrd*

WORDS AND MUSIC BY Edward King and Ronnie Van Zant TRANSCRIBED BY Matt Scharfglass

A Intro (0:00) (0:04)

Moderate Rock ♩ = 122

One two one two three

1 Gtr. 1 (w/dist. and slap-back echo) · B5 A5/B B5

* Chord symbols derived from overall tonality.

** Bass plays low B root.

5 Gtr. 1 E5/B B5 IX

let ring

Gtr. 2 (w/dist.)

8 A5/B B5 A5 D5 VII E5 IX Ooh over here

As heard on Lynyrd Skynyrd's MCA recording *Nuthin' Fancy*

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SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Lynyrd Skynyrd

A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 E A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5^V E5/B A D5/A E5/B

(0:22) Grt 2

12 Grt 3 (w/dist.) full pick and finger... full 1/2

B Verses

(0:30) 1. Well two thieves they come a creepin' like a black cat do
 (1:26) 2. Now Big Jim's been drinkin' whiskey and playin' poker on a losin' night
 (3:40) 3. Well handguns are made for killin' They ain't no good for nothin' else

Grt. 3 substitutes Fill 1 second time

A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 E A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5^V E5 A D5/A E5/B

Rhy. Fig. 1

* Grts 1 and 2 Grt 3

16

* Composite arrangement

And two bodies are layin' naked A creeper think he got nothin' to lose
 And pretty soon old Jim starts to thinkin' a somebody been cheatin' and lyin'
 And if you like to drink old whiskey you might even a shoot yourself

A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 E A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5^V E5/B A D5/A E5/B

20 Grts 1 and 2 Grt 3

C Pre-chorus

(0:46) 1. So he creeps into this house yeah and unlocks the door
 (1:42) 2. So Big Jim commence to fightin' I wouldn't tell you no lie
 (3:55) 3. So why don't we dump all people to the bottom of the sea

Grts. 1 and 2 substitute first seven meas. of Rhy. Fig. 1 second time

Grt. 3 plays Fill 2 second time

B5

24 Grt 1 Grt 2

* Slight vibrato (throughout section).

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And as the man's reachin' for his trousers a shoots him full of a thirty-eight holes
 Big Jim done a pulled his pistol a shot his friend a right between the eyes
 before some old fool come around here wanna shoot either you or me

28 B5 $\frac{1}{4}$ P.H. $\frac{1}{4}$ E5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5

D Chorus (1:02, 1:57, 4:12)

Mister Saturday Night Special Got a barrel that's a blue and cold

B5
Gtrs. 1 and 2

A5^{II} E5^{II}

32 (Sva) P.H. (Sva) P.H. (Sva) P.H.

(3rd time) To Coda ⊕
(skip ahead to meas. 80)

(2nd time: skip ahead to meas. 44)

You ain't good for nothin' but put a man six a feet in a hole

B5

Gtr. 1 substitutes Rhy. Fill 1 third time

Bm7

B5

E5

36 (Sva) P.H. w/bar

Gtrs. 1 and 2 play first four meas. of Rhy. Fig. 1

(go back to **B**)

(1:18) A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 E5 D5/A E5/B

40 Gtr. 3 grad. bend 2 11/2 1/2 full 1/4 1/4 1/2

E Interlude (2:13) let ring - j

but put a man six feet in a hole * Oh Mister Saturday Night Special

B5

E5

N.C.

B5

A5/B

B5

44 w/bar Gtr. 1

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(1st time only) For twenty dollars you can buy yourself one too

48

Fill 3

B5

A5/B

Gr. 1 substitutes Fill 3 simile second time

52

B5

E5/B

B5

let ring - - - - -

55

A5/B

B5

1.

E5

2.

Ooh

Here it comes

F Guitar Solo (3:00)

Gr. 1 and 2 play Rhy. Fig. 1 simile

A5

B5

D5

B5

D5

B5

A5

B5

58

grad. bend

full

grad. release

Gr. 3

full

full

full

1/4

let ring - - - - - let ring - - - - - let ring - - - - - let ring - - - - -

62

A5

B5

D5

B5

D5^V

E5

D5/A

E5/B

A5

B5

D5

B5

D5

B5

A5

B5

A5

B5

D5

B5

Fill 1 (1:26)

Fill 2 (1:48)

Rhy. Fill 1 (4:21)

A5

B5

D5

B5

D5

B5A5

B5

D5^V

E5

D5/A

E5/B

B5

Bm7

Gr. 3

Gr. 3

Gr. 1

P.M.

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E5^{VII} E5/B D5/A E5/B A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} E5^{IX} A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX} B5^{IX} end Rhy. Fig. 2

Gtrs. 1 and 2

67

Gtrs. 1 and 2 play Rhy. Fig. 2 simile

A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX} A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX}

72

D.S. al Coda
(go back to **B**)

let me tell you all about it

Gtrs. 1 and 2 play first four meas. of Rhy. Fig. 1 simile

A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5^V E5 D5/A E5/B

76

Coda (4:23)

G Outro (4:27)

1.

But put a man six a feet in a hole Ooh Mister Saturday Night Special and I'd like to tell you what you could do with it too

B5 E5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 E A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 E5/B A D5/A E5/B

Gtrs. 1 and 2

80

2.

And that's the end of this song

D5/A E5/B D5/A E5/B A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} A5^{VII} B5^{IX} A5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} B5^{IX} D5^{VII} E5^{IX}

Gtrs. 1 and 2

86

Gtr. 3

(play 3 times simile and fade)

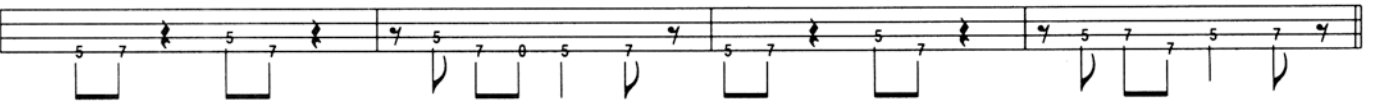
bass line

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D.S.  at Coda I 

(go back to **B** and take repeats)

26 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 E5 D5 E5



 Coda I (2:09)

E Interlude (2:13)

1., 2.

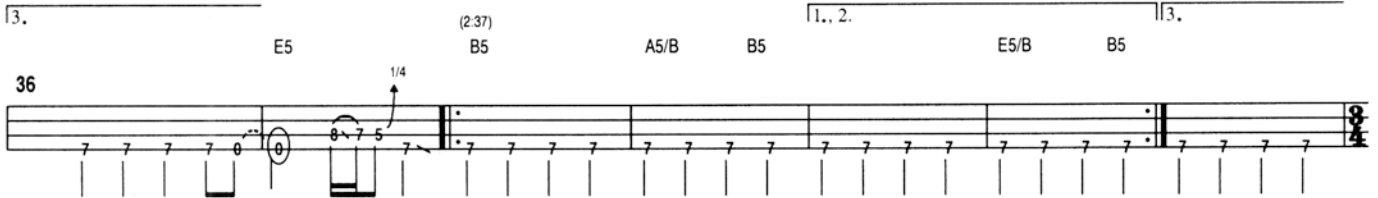
E5 N.C. B5 A5/B B5 E5/B B5

30



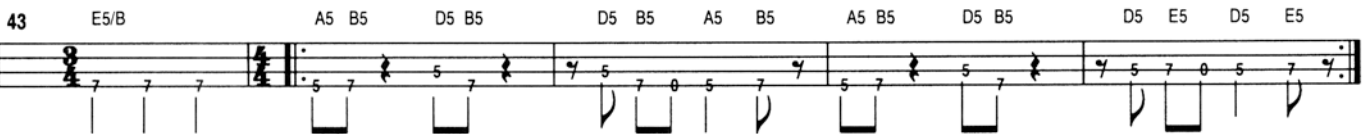
3. E5 (2:37) B5 A5/B B5 1., 2. E5/B B5 3.

36



F Guitar Solo (3:00)

43 E5/B A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 E5 D5 E5




D.S.  at Coda II 

(go back to **B** and take repeats)

(3:17) A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 E5 B5 D5 E5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 B5 A5 B5 A5 B5 D5 B5 D5 E5 D5 E5
(play 4 times)

48

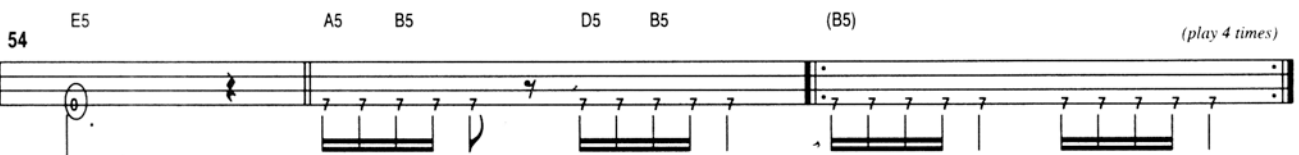


 Coda II (4:25)

H Outro (4:27)

* Ooh...

54 E5 A5 B5 D5 B5 (B5) (play 4 times)



* Sung 1st time only.

57

(play 7 times and fade)

