

Ticking

As Performed on the Album *Caribou*

ELTON JOHN
BERNIE TAUPIN

♩ = 84

1 F C/F B \flat /F F

4 C/F B \flat /F F

6 C/F B \flat /F F C/F B \flat /F

9 F B \flat /F F

1. An extremely quiet child they called you in your school report

12 B \flat /F F E \flat /F B \flat /F

He's al - ways taken interest in the subjects that he's taught

15 F Am9

So what was it that brought the squad car screaming up your drive to

18 Gm9

no - ti - fy your parents of the manner in which you died

21 C/E B \flat /D F

no - ti - fy your parents of the manner in which you died

24 $B\flat/F$ F $B\flat/F$

At St. Patricks every Sunday Father Fletcher heard your sins

27 F $B\flat/F$ F

Oh he's unconcerned with competition

30 $E\flat+9/F$ $B\flat/F$ F

he never cares to win But

33 $Am9$ $Gm9$

blood stained a young hand that never held a gun

36 C/E B \flat +9/D

and his a parents never thought of him as their troubled son

39 F F C/E Dm

Now you'll never get to heaven

42 Gm7 C7 F A7

Mama said re - member Mama said ticking ticking

45 Dm Gm9

Grow up straight and true blue run a - long to bed

47 C C/B \flat C/A Gm9 F

hear it hear it ticking ticking

50 C/F B \flat /F F C/F B \flat /F

2. They had

53 F B \flat /F F

you holed up in a downtown bar screamin' for a priest

56 B \flat /F F

Some gook said his brain's just snapped

58 $E^b +9/F$ B^b/F F

then some - one called the police

60 Am9

You'd knifed a negro wait - er who had tried

62 Gm7sus4

to calm you down Oh you'd

65 C/E $B^b +9/D$ F

pulled a gun and told them all to lay still on the ground

68 B^b/F F

Promising to hurt no one

70 B^b/F F

provi - ding they were still

72 B^b/F F

A young man tried to make a break

74 $E^b +9/F$ B^b/F F

with tear filled eyes you killed

76 F Am7sus4

That gun butt felt so smooth and

78 Gm9

warm cra - dled in your palm Oh your child -

81 C/E B♭/D

hood cried out in your head they mean to do you harm

83 F F C/E Dm7

Don't ever ride on the devil's knee

86 Gm7 Gm7/C C7 Gm7/C C7/E

Ma - ma said Re - member Ma - ma said

88 F A Dm

ticking ticking Pay your penance well my child

90 Gm7 C C/B \flat C/A Gm7

Fear where angels tread hear it hear it ticking

93 F C/F B \flat /F F

ticking

96 C/F B \flat /F F

3. Within an hour the news had reached

98 B \flat /F F

the me - di - a ma - chine

100 B \flat +9/F F

A male cauca - si - an with a gun

102 E \flat /F B \flat /F F

had gone beserk in Queens

104 F Am9

The ar - e - a had been sealed off the kids

106 Gm9

sent home from school

109 C/E Bb +9/D F

Fourteen people lyin' dead in a bar they call the Kickin' Mule

112 Bb / F F

Oh they pleaded to your san - i - ty

114 B \flat +9/F F

for the sake of those in - side

116 B \flat /F F+9 B \flat /F E \flat /F B \flat /F

Throw out your gun, walk out slow just keep your hands held

119 F

high But they

121 Am7sus4

pumped you full of ri - fle shells as you stepped out the door

123 Gm9 C7 C7/E

Oh you danced in your death like a marionette

126 Bb F F C/E

on the vengeance of the law You've

129 Dm+9 Gm7 Gm7/C C7 Gm7/C C7/E

slept too long in silence Mama said remem - ber Mama said

132 F A7 Dm Gm9

ticking ticking Crazy boy you'll only wind up with strange notions in your head

135 C C/B \flat C/A Gm7 F

Hear it hear it ticking ticking

138 C/F B \flat /F F C/F B \flat /F

141 F C/F B \flat /F

143 F C/F B \flat /F F