

Joni Mitchell | Big Yellow Taxi

SONG TITLE: BIG YELLOW TAXI
ALBUM: LADIES OF CANYON / 1970
LABEL: REPRISE
GENRE: FOLK / POP
WRITTEN BY: JONI MITCHELL
GUITAR: JONI MITCHELL
PRODUCER: JONI MITCHELL
UK CHART PEAK: 11

♩ = 172

A A⁶

f

T 2 2 2 2

A 2 4 4 4

B 5 5 5 5

□ V □ V

'Big Yellow Taxi' is featured on Joni Mitchell's *Ladies Of The Canyon*, released in 1970.

The song's lyrics express Mitchell's environmental and political concerns of the time. It was written during Mitchell's first trip to Hawaii – from her hotel room she could see green mountains in the distance with an enormous parking lot below. She described it as a "blight on paradise".

Joni Mitchell was born in 1943 in Alberta, Canada. Her work is highly respected across generations and genres. Her beginnings were in folk in the 60's but moved onto jazz, pop and electronica in later decades. She is one of the most prominent musicians from the Laurel Canyon scene. Her lyrics address social, environmental, and personal issues from a highly original and poetic perspective.

She produced most of her own work and is a highly accomplished vocalist, guitarist and pianist. Her contralto vocals and her distinctive open tunings on guitar are the vehicle for an original and confessional compositional style. She was awarded a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Her work has enormous influence to this day.

Joni Mitchell is an accomplished painter. She is equally committed to painting as she is to music and has occasionally described herself as a 'painter derailed by circumstance'.

Big Yellow Taxi

Joni Mitchell

Arranged by Carl Orr

♩ = 172

A A⁶ A A⁶ A B B⁶ B B⁶ B

f

T	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
B	2	4	4	4	2	2	4	4	2	2	4	6	6	6	4	4	6	6	4	4
	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E

mf

T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	1	2	4	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
B	2	4	5	4	2	4	4	2	4	2	2	4	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	0

E^{6sus4} E A

mf

T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	2	2	1	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	4	4	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} A

mp

T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	1	2	4	2	0	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	2	4	5	4	2	4	4	2	4	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

B E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

mf To Coda ⊕

T	4	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	4	4	4	4	1	2	4	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	2	2	2	2	2	4	5	4	2	4	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

E Emaj⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

[17]

A B E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E

[21]

E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E

[24]

A E⁷

[27]

A B

[30]

E⁷ E Emaj⁷

[33]

Amaj⁷ E A

[37]

E⁷

[41]

A⁷ E⁷

[45]

A⁷ E⁷

[49]

Guitar Solo (18 bars)

A E A B

[53]

E Emaj⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

[59]

A B E⁷ D.C. al Coda ⊕

[65]

⊕ Coda

E Emaj7 E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

[71]

E^{6sus4} E A

[74]

B E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

[77]

A B E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E

[80]

E^{6sus4} E A B

[83]

E E^{6sus4} E⁷ E^{6sus4} E E^{6sus4} E

[86]