

# I Shot the Sheriff

## The Wailers

I shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot no deputy  
Oh, no, oh  
I shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot no deputy Ooh, ooh, ooh yeah All around in my hometown  
They tryin' to track me down, yeah  
They say they want to bring me in guilty  
For the killing of a deputy, for the life of a deputy  
But I say, oh, now, now Oh, I shot the sheriff, but I swear it was in self defense  
Ooh, ooh, ooh, yeah  
I said, I shot the sheriff, oh Lord  
And they say it is a capital offense  
Ooh, ooh, ooh, yeah  
Hear this  
Sheriff John Brown always hated me  
For what I don't know  
Ev'ry time I plant a seed  
He said, "Kill it before it grows"  
He said, "Kill them before they grow"  
And so, and so  
Read it in the news I shot the sheriff, but I swear it was in self defense  
Where was the deputy? (Ooh, ooh, ooh)  
I said I shot the sheriff but I swear it was in self defense  
Yeah (Ooh) Freedom came my way one day  
And I started out of town, yeah!  
All of a sudden I saw Sheriff John Brown  
Aiming to shoot me down  
So I shot, I shot, I shot him down  
And I say, if I am guilty I will pay  
I shot the sheriff, but I say, but I didn't shoot no deputy  
I didn't shoot no deputy, no (Ooh, no, oh)  
I shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot no deputy  
Ooh, ooh, ooh, yeah Reflexes had the better of me  
And what is to be must be  
Ev'ry day the bucket a-go-a well  
One day the bottom a-go drop out  
One day the bottom a-go drop out  
I say I, I, I shot the sheriff, Lord I didn't shoot the deputy, no  
Yah, I, I, shot the sheriff, but I didn't shoot the deputy, yeah  
So yeah

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