

Story of Isaac
written by Leonard Cohen

Chords:

Am/f: 102210

Intro: Am . Am/f . | Am/f . . . |

Am Am/f
The door it opened slowly
Am Am/f
My father he came in
G F E
I was nine years old
Am Am/f
And he stood so tall above me
Am Am/f
His blue eyes they were shining
G F E
And his voice was very cold
C
He said, "I've had a vision
And you know I'm strong and holy
D Am B
I must do what I've been told."
F Bb
So we started up the mountain
F Bb
I was running, he was walking
F G A Am
And his axe was made of gold

Well, the trees they got much smaller
The lake was like a lady's mirror
We stopped to drink some wine
Then he threw the bottle over
Broke a minute later
And he put his hand on mine
Thought I saw an eagle
But it might have been a vulture
I never could decide
Then my father built an altar
He looked once behind his shoulder
He knew I would not hide

You who build these altars now
To sacrifice these children
You must not do it anymore
A scheme is not a vision
And you never have been tempted
By a demon or a god
You who stand above them now
Your hatchets blunt and bloody
You were not there before
When I lay upon a mountain
And my father's hand was trembling
With the beauty of the word

And if you call me brother now
Forgive me if I inquire
"Just according to whose plan?"
When it all comes down to dust
I will kill you if I must
I will help you if I can
When it all comes down to dust

I will help you if I must
 I will kill you if I can
 And mercy on our uniform
 Man of peace or man of war
 The peacock spreads his fan

Intro:

```

      Am           Am/f
      |           .           .           .           |           .           .           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
G:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
A:--0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--0-----1-----0-----1-----0-----1-----0-----1-----0-----:
    
```

```

      Am           Am/f
      |           .           .           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
G:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
A:--0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--0-----1-----0-----1-----0-----:
    
```

Verse:

```

      Am           Am/f           Am           Am/f
      |           .           .           .           |           .           .           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
G:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:--0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--0-----1-----0-----1-----0-----0-----0-----1-----0-----:
    
```

```

      G           F           E
      |           .           .           .           |           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--0-----1-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
G:--0-----2-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
D:--0-----0-----3-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--3-----1-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
    
```

```

      Am           Am/f           Am           Am/f
      |           .           .           .           |           .           .           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
G:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:--0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--0-----1-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----1-----0-----:
    
```

```

      G           F           E
      |           .           .           .           |           .
E:-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----:
B:--0-----1-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
G:--0-----2-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
D:--0-----0-----3-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
E:--3-----1-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
    
```

```

      C
      |           .           .           .           |           .           .           .
E:--0-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----:
B:--1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----:
    
```

G: ---0---:
 D: -----: :
 A: --3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----: :
 E: -----: :

 D Am B
 | . .
 E: --2-----0-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----: :
 B: -----3-----1-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----0-----: :
 G: --2---0---2---0---4---4---4---4---4---4---4---4---4---4---0---: :
 D: --0-----: :
 A: -----0-----2-----2-----2-----2-----: :
 E: -----: :

 F Bb F Bb
 | . .
 E: -----: :
 B: --1-----0---3-----0---1-----0---3-----0-----: :
 G: -----2-----3-----2-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----3-----: :
 D: --3---3---3---0---3---3---3---0---3---3---3---0---3---3---3---0---: :
 A: -----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----: :
 E: --1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----: :

 F G A
 | .
 E: -----: :
 B: --1-----0---0-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----: :
 G: -----2-----0-----0-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----: :
 D: --3---3---3---0---0---0---0---0---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---: :
 A: -----0-----0-----0-----0-----: :
 E: --1-----1-----3-----3-----: :

 Am Am/f Am Am/f
 | .
 E: -----: :
 B: --1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----1-----: :
 G: -----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----: :
 D: --2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---2---0---: :
 A: --0-----0-----0-----0-----: :
 E: -----0-----1-----0-----0-----1-----0-----: :