

April 4, 1968, King had gone out onto the balcony and was standing near his room when he was struck in the face at 6:01 p.m. by a single .30-06 bullet fired from a Remington Model 760 rifle. The bullet entered through King's right cheek, breaking his jaw and several vertebrae as it travelled down his spinal cord, severing his jugular vein and major arteries in the process, before lodging in his shoulder. The force of the shot ripped King's necktie off. King fell backward onto the balcony, unconscious.

A previous video of this song which included still images from The Last Waltz was blocked worldwide by MGM. Their reason? Copyright breach. I recently contacted MGM for permission to include a couple of images from Neil Diamond's stunning performance at The Last Waltz. Here is their explanation-

"In addition, any MGM's is copyrighted material (Clips, stills and Posters) you want to use (no matter if on the Internet or elsewhere) to create a video requires a use license, which was quoted to you for MGM's customary license fee for Internet use, Worldwide for up to a Five Year term is US\$500 per Poster or Still, per image."

I highlighted the fact that others had uploaded the entire live segment of Neil Diamond's performance at The Last Waltz with apparent impunity. There was no response forthcoming from MGM.

As a consequence, I have refrained from including any images from The Last Waltz.

DRY YOUR EYES

NEIL DIAMOND/ROBBIE ROBERTSON

Dry your eyes and take your song out
It's a newborn afternoon
And if you can't recall the singer
You can still recall the tune

Dry your eyes and play it slowly
Like you're marching off to war
Sing it like you know he'd want it
Like we sang it once before

And from the centre of the circle
To the midst of the waiting crowd
If it ever be forgotten
Sing it long and sing it loud
And come dry your eyes

And he taught us more about giving
Than we ever cared to know
But we came to find the secret
And we never let it go

And it was more than being holy
Oh, it was less than being free
And if you can't recall the reason
Can you hear the people sing

Right through the lightning and the thunder
To the dark side of the moon
To that distant falling angel
That descended much too soon
And come dry your eyes

Come dry your eyes

Neil Diamond – 1976

Album: Beautiful Noise

This version from The Last Waltz (1978)