

## **John Barleycorn Must Die Traffic (1970) Capo V (in A)**

intro: E / D -A / Bm (Bsus2 Bm Bsus2) 2x

E Bm D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
There were three men came out of the west,

E D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
their fortunes for to try

E Bm D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
And these three men made a solemn vow:

E D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
John Barleycorn must die.

D Bm A Bm  
They've ploughed, they've sewn, they've harrowed him in;

D E F#  
threw clods at Barley's head

E Bm D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
And these three men made a solemn vow:

E D A Bm (Bm Bsus2 Bm Bsus2)  
John Barleycorn was dead.

E D A Bm (Bsus2 Bm Bsus2) x 2

### **Verse 2:**

They've let him lie for a very long time,  
'till the rains from heaven did fall  
And little Sir John sprung up his head,  
and so amazed them all.  
They've let him stand 'till midsummer's day,  
'till he looked both pale and worn  
And little Sir John's grown a long, long beard,  
and so become a man.

E D A Bm (Bsus2 Bm Bsus2) 2x

**Verse 3:**

They've hired men with the scythes so sharp,  
to cut him off at the knee  
They've rolled him and tied him by the waist,  
servin' him most barbarously.  
They've hired men with the sharp pitchforks,  
who pricked him to the heart  
And the loader he has served him worse than that,  
for he's bound him to the cart

E D A Bm (Bsus2 Bm Bsus2) 2x

**Verse 4:**

They've wheeled him around and around the field,  
'till they came unto a barn  
And there they made a solemn oath,  
on poor John Barleycorn.  
They've hired men with the crab-tree sticks,  
to cut him skin from bone  
And the miller he has served him worse than that,  
for he's ground him between two stones.

E D A Bm (Bsus2 Bm Bsus2) 2x

**Verse 5:**

And little Sir John and the nut-brown bowl,  
and he's brandy in the glass  
And little Sir John and the nut-brown bowl,  
proved the strongest man at last.  
The huntsman, he can't hunt the fox,  
nor so loudly to blow his horn  
And the tinker he can't mend kettle nor pots,

E D A Bm  
without a little Barleycorn