



JoniMitchell.com Transcription for Guitar:

Michael From Mountains

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Sue McNamara

Tuning: FFCGAC 'Joni' Tuning: F07723

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Sue McNamara already did a nice transcription of this song. I've taken her version and changed a few chords here and there to come up with this version, which I think is pretty much spot on.

Thanks to Sue for getting it started!

Intro:

Cmadd9	F	F	F	F
xx0767	000505	000500	000505	000500

Verse 1:

F	F	F
000505	000500	000505

Michael wakes you up with sweets

F	Fadd2	Bbm6/9/F	Fadd2
000500	000000	001010	000000

He takes you up streets and the rain comes down

F F F
000505 000500 000505
Sidewalk markets locked up tight

F Fadd2 Bbm6/9/F Fadd2
000500 000000 001010 000000
And umbrellas bright on a grey background

Bridge:

There's a trick you need here for the 10 10 10 10 10 0 and 999990 chords. To get a barre across the lowest 5 strings and keep the top string open, you need to use an *overhand* barre. In other words, your hand approaches the neck from above, with your fingers pointing *down* to the floor. Use your first finger to barre the 5 strings and leave the top one open.

Although I've heard this overhand technique of Joni's mentioned once or twice, this is the first time I've actually found it to be the only way to play a particular chord.

There's an extra subtlety involved here - for the chords at the 10th and 9th fret, the top string alternates between being open and fretted (e.g the chord sequence is 999990 999999 99990). On one guitar it's possible to do this (use another finger for the top string), but it's not that easy.

On the original song, there are two guitars playing, and it sounds like

one guitar plays the full barre (i.e top string fretted) and the other plays the 5-string barre (top string open). So the effect is as if the top string switches between open and fretted, but it's probably the interaction of the two different guitar parts.

Of course, it could be that Joni actually *does* change between the two shapes ... but

I find this quite tricky - maybe she has more flexible fingers?!

If you find the switch between chord shapes difficult on one guitar, just use

the 5-string barre, as the open top string is an important note in these chords.

Eb6/9	Ebadd9	Eb6/9
10 10 10 10 10 0	10 10 10 10 10 10	10 10 10 10 10 0
There's oil on the puddles	in taffeta	patterns

D9	Dadd9	D9
999990	999999	999990
That run down the drain		

Dbmaj9	Cadd9
888880	777770
In colored arrangements that Michael will change	

Fadd9	Gmadd4	Fadd9	Gmadd4	Fadd9
000000	x22010	000000	x22010	000000
with a stick that he found				

Chorus:

Cmadd9

xx0767

Michael from mountains

Bbadd9

555555

Go where you will go to

Am7

Am7

Am7

x44030

x44034

x44030

Know that I will know you

Gmadd4

Am7

Bbadd9

Abadd9

F

F

F

x22010

x44030

555555

333333

000505

000500

000505

Someday I may know you very well

Cmadd9

F

F

F

F

xx0767

000505

000500

000505

000500

Verse 2:

(Same chords as before)

Michael brings you to a park
He sings and its dark when the clouds come by
Yellow slickers up on swings
Like puppets on strings hanging in the sky
They'll splash home to suppers in wallpapered kitchens
Their mothers will scold
But Michael will hold you
To keep away cold till the sidewalks are dry-

CHORUS

Verse 3:

(Same chords as before)

Michael leads you up the stairs
He needs you to care and you know you do
Cats come crying to the key
And dry you will be in a towel or two
There's rain in the window
There's sun in the painting that smiles on the wall
You want to know all
But his mountains have called so you never do-

Final chorus:

Cmadd9

xx0767

Michael from mountains

Bbadd9

555555

Go where you will go to

Am7

Am7

Am7

x44030

x44034

x44030

Know that I will know you

Gmadd4

Am7

Bbadd9

Abadd9

F

F

F

x22010

x44030

555555

333333

000505

000500

000505

Someday I may know you very well

Gmadd4

Am7

Bbadd9

Abadd9

F

F

F

x22010

x44030

555555

333333

000505

000500

000505

Someday I will know you very well

Cmadd9

F

F

F

F

xx0767

000505

000500

000505

000500

F

F

F

000505

000500

000505