

HESITATION BLUES

Traditional from as early as 1916

DE11/23

Key: C **Start note:** E **Time:** 4/4 **Strum:** D_ du d_ du

Intro: G /// F /// C /// E7↓ (2, 3)

- Am / E7 / Am / E7 /
1. Well, if the river was whiskey, and I were a duck
Am / E7 / Am / C7
I'd dive to the bottom and never come up
/ F F C C
Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
G F C E7
Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?
Am / E7 / Am / E7 /
2. Ain't been to heaven, but I've been told
/ Am / E7 / Am / C7
St. Peter taught the angels how to jel-ly roll,
/ F F C C
Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
G F C E7
Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?
Am / E7 / Am / E7 /
3. I was born in England, raised in France
Am / E7 / Am / C7
Got a suit of clothes, but I didn't get the pants
/ F F C C
Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
G F C E7
Can I get you now,... or must I hesitate?
Am / E7 / Am / E7 /
4. I ain't no doctor, or no doctor's son,
Am / E7 / Am / C7
But I'll do the doctoring 'til the doctor comes.
/ F F C C
Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
G F C E7
Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?

Instrumental:

Am / E7 / Am / E7 / Am / E7 / Am / C7 /

F /// F /// C /// C /// G /// F /// C /// E7 ///

Am / E7 / Am / E7 /
 5. I ain't no ice man, no ice man's son,
 Am / E7 / Am / C7
 But I can keep you cool, til the iceman comes.
 / F F C C
 Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
 G F C E7
 Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?
 Am / E7 / Am / E7

6. I was born in Texas, raised in Tennessee
 / Am / E7 / Am / C7
 If you don't like my peaches, don't you shake my tree
 / F F C C
 Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
 G F C E7
 Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?
 Am / E7 / Am / E7

7. I'm standin' on the corner with a dollar in my hand
 / Am / E7 / Am / C7
 I'm lookin' for a woman who's lookin' for a man,
 / F F C C
 Tell me how long... do I have to wait?
 G F C / C7 / F / Fm / G7 /// C7↓
 Can I get you now... or must I hesitate?

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Note: When you play the last two C's on the third line, you can do the blues riff as follows:

C	C
A---3---3---3---3	3---3---3---3
E---0---0---0---0	0---0---0---0
C---0---0---0---0	0---0---0---0
G---0---2---3---2	0---2---3---2