

Key: E

Genre: Blues

Harp Type: Chromatic

Skill: Intermediate

# John the Revelator (Chromatic)

John the Revelator (Chromatic)

Recorded and Performed by Blind Willie Johnson

Key: E Major Range: E4 to E5

Tabbed for a 12 hole key of C, Solo tuned chromatic.

Tab notations:

none = blow – = draw \_\_ = hold

~~ = gliss \* = button in

3\*\_-2 = slur; slide smoothly from one note to the next

-4\_ -4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_

Well, who's that a – writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_)



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-4\_ -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_\_  
Who's that a – writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4 -4 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4~~2  
Who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_\_\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\*\_ 2\_ -4 -4 -4  
A book of\_ the sev-en\_ seals. Oh, tell me

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_\_\_  
what's John a – writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4 -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_\_  
What's John a – writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4\_2  
What's John a – writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\*\_ 2\_\_\_\_  
A book of\_ the sev-en\_ seals.\_

2 2 3\*\_ -3 3\*\_ -3 3\*\_2\_\_\_\_ -3 3\* -3 3\* -3 -3\_3\*\_2\_\_\_\_  
Well, a-whoa\_ooa\_\_ Babe\_\_ thou-sand cried, "A ho-ly\_\_\_\_\_

-3 3\* -3 -3\_3\* 2\_\_\_\_ -3 3\* -3\_3\* 2\_\_\_\_  
moun-tain of bal\_\_-sam, Son of our\_\_ God,\_



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-4 -4 4\* -3\_3\* 2\_\_\_ -4 -4 3\* -4\_ 2

Daugh-ter of Zi\_\_\_-on,\_ Ju-dah the li\_-on,

6 6 6 6 -4 3\* -4 3\* -4 3\* 2 -3 -3 3\*

the Re-deem-er said He brought us with the blood. A-tell me

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_\_

who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_

Who's that a-writ-in'\_ (John the Rev-e-la-tor)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4~~2

Who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\*\_ 2\_\_\_\_\_

A book of\_ the sev-en\_ seals.\_

-4\_ -4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_\_

Well, what's John a-writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_

What's John a-writ-in'\_ ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4~~2

What's John a-writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_)



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6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_\_\_

A book of\_ the sev-en seals.\_

2 -3 3\* -3 3\* -3 -3\_3\*\_2 -3 3\* -3 -3\_3\* 2\_\_\_\_

Well, John the Rev-e-la-tor,\_\_\_ straight ad-vo-ca\_\_\_\_-tor,

-3 3\* -3\_3\* 2 -3 -3 3\* -3\_3\* 2\_\_\_\_

catch 'em on\_\_\_\_ the bat-tle of Zi\_\_\_\_-on,\_

3\* -4 -4 -4 -4 2 -4 -4 -4 -4\_2 2 -3 3\*

Oh, tell them the sto-ry, right in the glo\_-ry of God,

6 -4 3\* -4 6 -4 3\*\_\_\_\_

Lord, to so love Him from high.

-3 3\* -4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_\_\_

Tell me, who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_\_

Who's that a-writ-in'\_ (John the Rev-e-la-tor)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4~~2

Who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\* 2\_\_\_\_\_

A book of\_ the sev-en seals.



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-4\_ -4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_

Well, what's John a-writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 3\*\_2 -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* 3\* 2\_\_

What's John a-writ-in'\_ ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_

What's John a-writ-in' ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\* 2\_\_

A book of\_ the sev-en seals.

3\* -3 -3 3\* -3 3\*\_ -3 -3 3\* -3\_\_\_\_\_

Well, Mos-es to Mos-es, watching the flock,

-3 3\* -3 -3 3\* -3 3\* 2

saw the bush, where they had to stop.

-3 -3 -3 3\* -3 -3 3\* -3

God told Moses, pull off his shoes,

-3 -3 3\* -3 -3 -3 3\* 2\_\_

"Out of the flock, well you are Jews."

-4 -4 -4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4 3\* -3 3\* -3 -4\_\_

Tell me, who's that a-writ-in' (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_)



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Who's that a-writ-in'\_ (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

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Who's that a-writ-in'\_ (John the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_)

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A book of\_ the sev-en seals.

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Well, what's John a-writ-in'\_ ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

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What's John a-writ-in'\_ ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_)

-4\_ -3 3\* -3 -4\_ -4\_ 3\* -3 3\* -4 -4~~2

What's John a-writ-in'\_ ('Bout the Rev-e-la-tor\_\_)

6 6 6\_2 2 3\* 3\* 2\_\_

A book of\_ the sev-en seals.

2 2 3\*\_ -3 3\*\_ -3 3\*\_2\_\_ -3 3\* -3 3\* -3 -3\_3\*\_2\_

Well, a-whoa\_ooa\_\_ Babe\_\_ thou-sand cried, "A ho-ly\_\_\_\_\_

-3 3\* -3 -3\_3\* 2\_\_ -3 3\* -3\_3\* 2\_\_

moun-tain of bal\_\_-sam, Son of our\_\_ God,\_



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6 6 6 6 -4 3\* -4 3\* -4 3\* 2 -3 -3 3\*

the Re-deem-er said He brought us with the blood. A-tell me

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American gospel-blues musician Blind Willie Johnson recorded John the Revelator in 1930 as a vocal Duet with Willie B. Harris, who sang the response portion of the song. Considered one of the most influential and powerful songs in all of pre-World War II acoustic music, it has been hugely influential to subsequent blues performers. A variety of artists have recorded their renditions of the song, often with variations in the verses and music.



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# Lyrics



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