

It Ain't Necessarily So

Eb for Standard Key

Ira Gershwin

George Gershwin

Medium [Lena Horne 1959] (♩ = 118)

A EMI

2

EMI

A

EMI

It ain't ne-ces - sar - i - ly so.
Da-vid was small, but oh my.

It ain't ne-ces - sar - i - ly so. The
Little Da-vid was small, but oh my. He

A⁷

B_b⁷, —

A⁷ _____?

B_b⁷, _____

F[#]₇ 3 —

B⁷
2

things that you're lia-ble to read in the Bi-ble, it ain't ne-ces - sar - i - ly fought big Go - li - ath who lay down and di-eth. Little Da - vid was small, but oh

Guitar tablature for the first measure of a blues progression. The staff shows a C major chord (C-E-G) followed by an E minor chord (E-G-B). The tab includes a bass line, with notes on the 4th and 5th strings. The measure ends with a fermata over the 5th string.

Musical notation for the word "Little". It consists of a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, a common time signature, and a staff with vertical bar lines. The lyrics "A/B" are written above the staff, and "Little" is written below it. There is also a measure symbol (a vertical line with a dot) and a double bar line with repeat dots.

15 A⁷ B_b⁷ A⁷ B_b⁷ F_#⁷ B⁷ E_{M1} E_{M1}⁷

19

EMI A **E**MI A **E**MI A **E**MI

||: **E**MI A **E**MI A **E**MI A **E**MI |

3 3 3 3

Jo-nah, he lived in the whale.
Mo-ses was found in a stream.

Oh Jo-nah, he lived in the whale.
Little Mo-ses was found in a stream.

For He

23 **A⁷** **B_b⁷**₃ **A⁷**₃ **B_b⁷**₃ **F_#⁷**₃ **B⁷**₃

he made his home in that fish - 's ab - do-men. Oh Jo - nah, he lived in the
float - ed on wa - ter, 'til old Pharaoh's daughter, she fished him, she says, from that

29 E_{MI} A E_{MI} A E_{MI} A E_{MI} A⁷ B_b⁷ A⁷ B_b⁷ F_#⁷ B⁷ E_{MI} E_{MI}⁷

It Ain't Necessarily So

37 **E_{MI}** **A** **E_{MI}** **A** **E_{MI}** **A** **E_{MI}**

ain't ne-ces-sar - i - ly so. It ain't ne-ces-sar - i - ly so. They

41 **A⁷** **B^{b7}** **A⁷** **B^{b7}** **F^{#7}** **B⁷** **E_{MI}**

tell all the children the de-vil's a villain but 'tain't ne-ces-sar - i - ly so. To

45 **B^{b7}** **F** **F** **F#_{MI}⁷** **B⁷** **E⁶** **E⁷**

get in - to Heaven don't snap for a se-ven. Live clean, don't have no fault! Oh,

49 **A⁷** **D** **D⁶** **F#⁷_{SUS}** **F#^{7(b5)}** **G^{7(#5)}**

I take that gos-pel when - ev - er it's poss'ble, but with a grain of salt. Me -

53 **E_{MI}** **A** **E_{MI}** **A** **E_{MI}** **A**

thus - lah lived nine hundred years. Me - thus - lah lived nine hundred

56 **E_{MI}** **A⁷** **B^{b7}** **A⁷** **B^{b7}**

years. But who calls that liv - in' when no gal - 'll give in to

59 **F#⁷** **B⁷** **E_{MI}** **A⁷** **D#⁷** **C⁷**

no man what's nine hun - dred years? I'm

62 **A_{MI}⁶** **E** **B⁷** **A** **G#⁷**

preachin' this ser-mon to show it ain't ne - ces - sar - i - ly,

65 **C#_{MI}** **A_{MI}⁶** **E** **B^{9(#5)}** **E**

ain't ne - ces - sar - i - ly, ain't ne - ces - sar - i - ly so!