

# "TIGHTEN UP" THE BLACK KEYS

As heard on **BROTHERS** (NONESUCH)

Words and Music by **Dan Auerbach and Patrick Carney** \* Transcribed by **Jeff Perrin**

**F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#** **F#m** **C#m** **F#m** **C#m** **A** **B**

**A Intro** (0:00)  
Moderately ♩ = 138

N.C. (F#m) **F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#**  
 Gtr. 1 (elec. w/dist. and slap-back delay effect) *Rhy. Fig. 1* *end Rhy. Fig. 1*

**F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#**  
 \*Bass (w/light sub-octave effect) *Bass Fig. 1* *end Bass Fig. 1*

\*Elec. gtr. w/sub-octave and double sub-octave effects, direct level turned completely down (producing pitches one and two octaves below fretted note), arr. for bass.

**F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#** 1.1  
 Gtr. 1 repeats *Rhy. Fig. 1* (see bar 2)  
 \*Gtr. 2 (elec. w/dist.)

6

\*Gtr. 2 part on recording performed w/capo at 2nd fret. Non-capo arrangement presented to facilitate convenient live performance of the song.  
 Bass repeats *Bass Fig. 1* (see bar 2)

**B 1st and 3rd Verses** (0:22, 1:27)

(1.) wanted love I needed love most of all most of all  
 Someone said true love was dead and I'm bound to fall bound to fall for you  
 3. Sick for days In so many ways I'm achin' now I'm achin' now  
 times like these I need relief Please show me how oh show me how to get it right

**F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#**  
 Gtr. 1 plays *Rhy. Fig. 1* three times (see bar 2)  
 Gtr. 2 (first time only)

10

*Bass Fig. 2* *end Bass Fig. 2*

Oh what Yes can I outta do sight yeah 4. When

**F#m** **Amaj7** **Bm** **C#**

14

Gtr. 4 (elec. w/dist.)  
 Gtr. 3 (elec. w/dist.)  
 Gtr. 2 *Riff A* *end Riff A*  
 Bass *Bass Fill 1*

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# "TIGHTEN UP"

## D 2nd and 4th Verses (0:48, 1:54)

2. Take my badge but my heart remains lovin' you baby child  
 Tighten up on your reigns you're runnin' wild runnin' wild It's  
 (4.) I was young and moving fast nothing slowed me down oh slowed me down  
 Now I let the others pass I've come around oh come around 'cause I've

F#m Amaj7 Bm C#

Gr. 1 plays Rhy. Fig. 1 twice (see bar 2)  
 Gr. 2 plays Riff A each second time (see bar 14)

\*Gr. 4

18

\*Gr. 2

\*1st time only

Bass plays Bass Fig. 2 twice (see bar 10)

Bass substitutes Bass Fill 1 each second time (see bar 17)

## E Interlude (1:08, 2:13)

true found

F#m C#m F#m C#m F#m C#m A B

22

2nd time, skip ahead to E go back to B 3rd Verse

F#m C#m F#m C#m F#m C#m A B

Gr. 1 repeats Rhy. Fig. 2 (see bar 23)

\*Gr. 4

27

# "TIGHTEN UP"

**F** (2:31)

N.C.(F#m)

Gtrs. 2, 3 and 4

N.C.

Gtr. 1

\*\*\*"warbling" dive

32

\*Gtr. 4 plays note to right of slash.

\*\*To reproduce, set Whammy pedal to lower note one octave, then gradually depress pedal while playing phrase. Alternatively, use tremolo bar to dive while sounding notes with fret-hand hammer-ons and pull-offs.

**G** (2:36)

Slower  $\downarrow = 98$

(2.) Livin' just to keep going  
(3.) I don't need to get steady

going just to keep sane  
I know just how I feel

All the while I know it  
Telling you to be ready

such a shame  
my dear

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

A

B

Gtr. 1 (doubled simile)

Rhy. Fig. 3

(play 3 times)  
end Rhy. Fig. 3

34

(play 3 times)  
end Bass Fig. 3

\*Note in parenthesis played second time only.

**H** Outro (3:05)

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

A

B

Gtr. 1 plays Rhy. Fig. 3 twice (see bar 34)

\*Gtr. 2 (w/harmonizer and slow, resonant phase shifter)

38

\*Harmonizer set to produce notes one octave above and below original pitch. Effect mix set to 100% wet (direct level turned completely down).  
Bass plays Bass Fig. 3 twice (see bar 34)

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

F#m C#m

42

A

B

Freely

Gtr. 2

45