

A GIFT OR A CURSE

As recorded by Iced Earth

(From the 2008 Album THE CRUCIBLE OF MAN)

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Words by Jon Schaffer
Music by Jon Schaffer/Jim Morris
Arranged by Jon Schaffer

A Intro

$R = 126$

All guitars tuned to Eb

1

Gtr III

let ring¹

T			(5)	(5)	
A		5	5	5	9
B					10

sl.

5

Gtr III

let ring

T	10	(10)		x	x	5
A				x	x	5
B				x	x	5

Gtr IV

let ring

T		3	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	2
A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	0					0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

B Verse

9

let ring¹

sl.

T 5 (5) (5) (5)

A 5 (5) (5) 9

B

T 1 (1)

A 2 (1)

B (2)

13

Am

1.

let ring

T 10 (10) x x 5

A x x 5

B x x 5

let ring

T 2 3 1 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 3 2 1 2 0 2 0 1 2

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

C Chorus

17

2.

C G Am

Gtr IV

let ring

let ring

T 2 3 1 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 0 0 0 2 0 3 2 0

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 2 2 0 0 3 0 3 2 0

21

4

Gtr III

mf

8va-----

17 17 17 (17)

Gtr IV

let ring-----

T									
A									
B									

T		3	2	1	2		0	2	0	1	2		3	2	1	2		0	2	0	1	2	
A	2	2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	
B							0						0					0					

25

C G Am

4 4

8va-----

mf

17 17

let ring-----

let ring-----

T																								
A																								
B																								

T																								
A	3	2	0	2	0	0		2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2		0	2	2	0	1	2	2	
B							3										0							

D.S.

29

8va

fff

let ring

T 19 (19)

A x x 5

B x x 5

D 3rd Verse

31

let ring¹

sl.

T 5 (5) (5) (5)

A 5 (6) (6) (6)

B 5 (5) (5) (5)

10 9

T 1 (1)

A 2 (2)

B 2 (2)

35

let ring

let ring

T 10 (10)

A x x 5

B x x 5

T 2 3 2 1 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 3 2 1 2 0 2 0 1 2

A 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

39

2.

let ring

T	10	(10)		
A				
B				

let ring

T		3	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	2		3	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	2	2	
A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	0					2					0					2					2	

E Distortion Verse

43

F5

G5

Gtr VI

T	•	7	9	4	5	7	5	(5)	7	5	4	5	7	5	4	7	9	4	5	7	5	(5)	7	5	4	5	7	5	4
A	•																												
B	•																												

Gtr V Harmony guitar plays top notes

T	•	12	13	10	12	10	(10)	12	10	10	12	10	12	13	10	12	10	(10)	12	10	10	12	10	12	13	10	12	10
A	•	9	10	12	7	9	7	(7)	9	7	12	7	9	7	12	9	10	12	(7)	9	7	12	7	9	7	12	9	10
B	•			10						10				10							10					10		

Gtrs I, II p.m.-----| p.m.-----| p.m.-----| p.m.-----|

T	•																												
A	•	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
B	•	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

47

A5 G5 A5 C5 G5 A5 G5 A5 C5 G5 3x

T
A 5 7 4 5 (5) 7 5 4 5 7 5 4 5 7 4 5 (5) 7 5 4 5 7 5 4 ●
B

T
A 10 12 12 10 (10) 12 10 12 10 12 10 12 10 12 10 (10) 12 10 12 10 12 10 ●
B 7 9 10 7 (7) 9 7 10 7 9 7 10 7 9 10 7 (7) 9 7 10 7 9 7 10 ●

P.M.-----| P.M.-----| P.M.-----| P.M.-----| 3x

T
A 7 ●
B 5 ●

51

G5 G/B A5 N.C. A5

Gtr V Harmony guitars combined for simplicity

T 13 12 10 9 12 10
A 9 7 5 7 9 7
B 10 9 7 10 9 7

Gtrs I, II P.M.-----| P.M.-----| P.M.-----| 2

T
A 5 3 3 5 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 3 2 0
B 3 3 3 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 3 2 0

F Guitar Solo

53

Gtr VI

N.C. A5

T 9 5 7 5 9 5 9 5 9 5 7 9 7 5 9 5 8 5 7 8 7 5 8 5 8

A

B P P P P P P P D

Gtr V *f*

T (10)

A (9)

B (7)

Gtrs I, II *f* P.M.-----| P.M.--| P.M.--| P.M.--|

T

A 0 0 3 2 2 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 2

B

55

8va----- N.C. A5

Gtr VI

T 12 8 10 8 12 8 12 8 12 8 10 12 10 11 8 10 10 11 8 11 0 10 13

A

B P P P P P P P H H

Gtrs I, II P.M.-----| P.M.--| P.M.--| P.M.--|

T

A 0 0 3 2 2 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 2

B

8va----- N.C. A5

62

T 12 13 12 15 14 15 12 13 12 15 14 15 12 13 12 15 17 19 16 17 19 17 18 20 17 20 17 20

A

B

H P H P H P P

T 12 13 12 14 13 14 12 13 12 14 13 14 12 13 12 10 12 14 10 12 14 12 13 15 12 15 12 15

A

B

H P H P H P P

P.M.-----| P.M.--| P.M.--| P.M.--|

T

A

B 0 0 3 0 2 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2

8va----- C5 G/B A5

64

Gtr VI

T 20-(20) 17 20 17 20-(20) 17 20 17 20-(20) 17 20 17 20-(20) 20 (20) 20 17

A

B

P P P sl.

Gtrs I, II P.M.-----| P.M.--|

T

A

B 0 0 3 0 2 0 0 0 5 5 2 0

66

N.C. A5

Am

Gtr III

T A B

8va

Gtr VI

T A B

17 20 20 (20) (20)

Gtrs I, II

P.M.-----|

T A B

0 3 2 0 (2) (0) (2) (0)

G Final Verse

69

Gtr III

T A B

5 (5) (5) (5)

5 (5) (5) (5)

5 (5) (5) (5)

let ring¹

9

sl.

Gtrs I, II

T A B

(2) (0)

73

Gtr III
let ring

T	10	(10)			x	x	5
A					x	x	5
B					x	x	5

Gtr IV
let ring

T							
A	2	2	3	2	1	2	
B	0	2	2	2	2	2	

77

Gtr III
let ring

T	5	(5)	(5)	(5)			
A	5	(6)	(6)	(6)			
B		(5)	(5)	(5)			9

Gtr IV
let ring

T	1	(1)					
A	2	(2)					
B							

81

Gtr III
let ring

T	10	(10)					
A							
B							

Gtr IV
let ring

T							
A	2	2	3	2	1	2	
B	0	2	2	2	2	2	

H Chorus

C G Am

85

mf

let ring-----|

let ring-----|

T
A
B

3 2 0 2 0 0 2 2 3 0 3 2 0 2 2 3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 2 2

C G

89

let ring-----|

T
A
B

3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 3 2 0 0 0 3 2 2 0 0 3

I Outro

97

Am

let ring

T 10 (10) /7 /7

A /7 /7

B

sl. sl.

let ring

T	3	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	2
A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	0					0						0					0					

101

let ring

T 5 (5) 8 (8) 7 (7) 5 7 5 7 7

A /10 9 8

B

sl. P

let ring

T	3	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	2
A	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	0					0						0					0					

117

U U k ^{8va} V V V

T (9) 15-17 17

A 9 (9)

B

sl.

let ring

T 3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2

A 2

B 0 2

121

^{8va} V V V V U U U

17-20 20 20-19 (19) (19) (19)

T

A

B

sl. sl.

let ring

T 3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2 3 2 1 2 2 0 2 0 1 2 2

A 2

B 0 2