



MARVIN GAYE

"I Heard It Through the Grapevine" was his first Number One hit, and was the most successful single released by Motown in the 1960s. The Andantes did the background vocals and Motown's studio band, The Funk Brothers, played a voodoo-like instrumental track. It took Marvin Gaye two months to complete his recording of the song. His lead vocal was arranged just above his actual register, a trick used with David Ruffin on Temptations songs such as "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" in order to elicit a rawer vocal from the singer as he strained to hit the high notes. The trick worked, and Gaye's pained lead on "Grapevine", contrasted with the softer vocals of the Andantes. It stayed at the top of the Billboard Charts for seven weeks, from December 7, 1968 to January 18, 1969. Marvin Gaye's "Grapevine" was entered into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1998. It was placed at #80 in Rolling Stone's "500 Greatest Songs of All Time."

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz
R & B Night
February 2006

I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

NORMAN WHITFIELD AND BARRETT STRONG 1967

Dm // Dsus4 // Dm // / / / / - repeat 5 times

Oo-oooh I bet you're wonderin' how I knew

Bout your plans to make me blue
With some other guy you knew before

Between the two of us, guys you know I love you more

It took me by surprise I must say

When I found out yesterday

Don't you know that I heard it through the grape - vine

Not much longer would you be mine
Oh, I heard it through the grape - vine

Oh, I'm just about to lose my mind... honey, honey yeah
I heard it through the grapevine not much longer would you be mine baby

I know a man ain't supposed to cry

But these tears I can't hold inside

Losing you would end my life you see

Cause you mean that much to me

You could have told me yourself
That you loved someone else

Instead I heard it through the grape - vine

Not much longer would you be mine

Oh, I heard it through the grape - vine

And I'm just about to lose my mind... honey, honey yeah
I heard it through the grapevine not much longer would you be mine baby

People say believe half of what you see

Son, and none of what you hear

But I can't help but be confused

If it's true, please tell me dear

Do you plan to let me go

For the other guy you loved before?

Don't you know I heard it through the grape - vine

Not much longer would you be mine

Baby, I heard it through the grape - vine

Oooh I'm just about to lose my mind... honey, honey yeah
I heard it through the grapevine not much longer would you be mine baby

.....honey honey I know, you plan to let me go...

Dm // Dsus4 // Dm // / / / /repeat and fade

