**“Gimme Shelter”--by Mick Jagger & Keith Richards, from 1969 album “Let it Bleed.”[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Oh, a storm is threat'ning  
My very life today  
If I don't get some shelter  
Oh yeah, I'm gonna fade away

War, children, it's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away  
War, children, it's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away

Ooh, see the fire is sweepin'  
Our very street today  
Burns like a red coal carpet  
Mad bull lost your way

War, children, it's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away  
War, children, it's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away

*Rape, murder!  
It's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away  
Rape, murder!  
It's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away  
Rape, murder!  
It's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away[[2]](#footnote-2)*

The floods is threat'ning  
My very life today  
Gimme, gimme shelter  
Or I'm gonna fade away

War, children, it's just a shot away  
It's just a shot away (4X)  
I tell you love, sister, it's just a kiss away  
It's just a kiss away ….

1. “No rock record, before or since, has ever so completely captured the *sense of palpable dread that hung over its era.*” --Stephen Davis, [*Old Gods Almost Dead: The 40-Year Odyssey of the Rolling Stones*](http://amzn.to/14K9jH4). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Singer **Merry Clayton** is responsible the cracking voice that gives this part its haunting power. She was called by her producer after midnight and asked to come down to the studio in L.A. where the Rolling Stones were recording *Let it Bleed* in 1969. Despite being pregnant, she met the Stones, sang the part, and entered rock ‘n’ roll history. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)