**“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)