I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE
NORMAN WHITFIELD AND BARRETT STRONG 1967

You could have told me yourself
That you loved someone else
Instead I heard it through the grapevine
Not much longer would you be mine

Oh, I heard it through the grapevine
And I'm just about to lose my mind... honey, honey yeah

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 grapevine
Not much longer would you be mine baby

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

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

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

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