

**The Way I Should**  
**Iris DeMent**

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#song. You may only use this file for private study, scholarship, or research.#  
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The Way I Should - Written by Iris DeMent  
>From The Album "The Way I Should" - Iris DeMent  
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Capo 4th Fret

[Intro]

**C D G G C D G G**

[tab]**G** **D** **G**  
A cold wind against my shoulder woke me up in the middle of the night[/tab]  
[tab] **Em**  
An autumn leaf was scraping against my window[/tab]  
[tab] **G**  
Like it was tryin hard to get inside[/tab]  
[tab] **C** **D**  
And then a ghost that I had met before he kept me up till dawn[/tab]  
[tab] **G** **C**  
And everything I thought was right was suddenly all wrong[/tab]  
[tab] **D**  
He said "your score is looking pretty bad"[/tab]  
[tab] **G**  
Then he asked me what it was that I had to show[/tab]

[tab]**G**  
So I went runnin down a list of things[/tab]  
[tab]**D** **G**  
Some were real, but on some of them I lied[/tab]  
[tab] **Em**  
Cause I felt I had to justify each breath that[/tab]  
[tab] **G**  
I d been breathin in this life[/tab]  
[tab] **C** **D**  
Then I realized I was playing into someone else s rules[/tab]  
[tab]**G** **C**  
Tryin to keep my score up in a game I did not choose[/tab]  
[tab] **D**  
Then I looked that ghost straight in the eye and said[/tab]  
[tab] **G**

"You d better not be coming back by again"[/tab]

[tab]G C  
And it s true that I don t work near as hard[/tab]

[tab] D  
As you tell me that I m supposed to[/tab]

[tab]G C  
I don t run as fast as I could[/tab]

[tab] D  
But I live just the way I want to[/tab]

[tab] G  
And that s the way I should[/tab]

[Instrumental]

C D G C C D G G

[tab]G  
October s leaves were dancin round[/tab]

[tab] D G  
Like angels dressed in robes of red and gold[/tab]

[tab] Em  
But November s come and gone now[/tab]

[tab] G  
And they re lyin in the gutter out along the road[/tab]

[tab] C D  
They re gonna make their way out to the ditch or someday to the sea[/tab]

[tab] G C  
But they ll get to where they re goin without the help of you or me[/tab]

[tab] D  
And if each life is just a grain of sand[/tab]

[tab] G  
I m tellin you man, this grain of sand is mine[/tab]

[tab]G C  
And it s true that I don t work near as hard[/tab]

[tab] D  
As you tell me that I m supposed to[/tab]

[tab]G C  
I don t run as fast as I could[/tab]

[tab] D  
But I live just the way I want to[/tab]

[tab] G  
And that s the way I should[/tab]

[tab] C D  
But I live just the way I want to[/tab]

[tab] G  
And that s the way I should[/tab]

[Outro. Repeat To Fade]

**C D G G**

Chords:

**C** = X32010

**D** = XX0232

**Em** = 022000

**G** = 320033

Transcribed by Jim Sparrow - 5th Feb 1998

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