

Werewolves of London

(Warren Zevon)

I saw a werewolf with a Chinese menu in his hand
Walking through the streets of Soho in the rain
He was looking for the place called Lee Ho Fook's
Gonna get a big dish of beef chow mein

[Hook]

Aa-hooo! Werewolves of London!
Aa-hooo!
Aa-hooo! Werewolves of London!
Aa-hooo!

If you hear him howling around your kitchen door
You better not let him in
Little old lady got mutilated late last night
Werewolves of London again

Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!
Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!

[Instrumental]

He's the hairy-handed gent who ran amuck in Kent
Lately he's been overheard in Mayfair
You better stay away from him
He'll rip your lungs out, Jim
I'd like to meet his tailor

Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!
Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!

Well, I saw Lon Chaney walking with the Queen
And they were doing the Werewolves of London
I saw Lon Chaney, Jr. walking with the Queen
And they were doing the Werewolves of London
I saw a werewolf drinking a pina colada at Trader Vic's
And his hair was perfect!

Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!
Aa-hooo!
Werewolves of London!

"Werewolves of London" is a rock song composed by LeRoy Marinell, Waddy Wachtel, and Warren Zevon and performed by Zevon. Included on Zevon's 1978 album *Excitable Boy*, it featured accompaniment by drummer Mick Fleetwood and bassist John McVie of Fleetwood Mac. The single was released by Asylum Records. It entered the American Top 40 charts on April 22, 1978, reaching number 21, and remained in the Top 40 for six weeks. In New Zealand, the song reached number 15.

According to Wachtel, "Werewolves of London" was "the hardest song to get down in the studio I've ever worked on." However, Wachtel "laid down his solo in one take, before he'd even had a chance to partake of the bump of coke and drink he'd placed in front of him." According to Jackson Browne (who was the producer for the recording), "Werewolves of London" along with "Excitable Boy" were written while work was being done on the album that preceded *Excitable Boy* but were not included on that album in favor of other songs. The song is in the key of G major, with a three-chord progression that runs throughout.

The song was written one hot Californian afternoon using a title suggested to Zevon by Phil Everly.