

# I AM WHAT I AM

Words and Music by JERRY HERMAN

**Ad lib.**

F Am B $\flat$  Gm7 C7

I am what I am, I am my own spe - cial cre - a - tion.

F Am B $\flat$  Gm7 C7 F

So come, take a look, give me the hook or the o - va - tion. It's my

Dm7 F C F Dm7

world that I want to have a lit - tle pride in; my world, and it's

Bb Gm7 C7 F Am

x x 0 0 0 0 3fr x 0 0 0 0 3

not a place I have to hide in. Life's not worth a damn till you can

Bb Gm7 C7 a tempo F Ebadd9 Dbmaj7

x x 0 0 0 0 3fr x 0 0 0 0 3 x x x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3

say 'I am what I am.'

F Am Bb

x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3

I am what I am, I don't want praise, I don't want  
I am what I am, and what I am needs no ex -

Gm7 C7 F Am Bb

x x 0 0 0 0 3fr x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3 x 0 0 0 0 3

pi - ty. I bang my own drum, some think it's noise, I think it's  
- cus - es. I deal my own deck, some-times the ace, some - times the

Gm7 3fr C7 F C/E Dm

pret - ty. — And so what — if I love each spark - le and each ban - gle,  
deuc - es. It's one life — and there's no re - turn and no de - pos - it,

F/C Gm7 3fr C F

why not try to see things from a diff - 'rent an - gle. Your life is a  
one life, so it's time to op - en up your clo - set. Life's not worth a

Am Bb Gm7 3fr C7 F

sham till you can shout out 'I am what I — am.' —  
damn till you can shout out

Ebadd9 Dbmaj7

F



(1st time only)

1.

2.



I am\_ what I am, and\_ what I

C



am needs no ex - cu - ses. I deal\_ my own deck, some-times the

C



ace, some - times the deuc - es. It's one life\_ and there's

Em G Am D

no re - turn and no de - po - sit. One life, so it's time to op - en up your clo - set.

Ab Cm Db

Life's not worth a damn till you can shout out 'I

Bbm7 Eb Gb Db

am what I am.'

Ab Gb Db

*repeat ad lib. to fade*