

2025-07-04-bluegrass (v 4)

1	Midnight Moonlight	PJ G
2	Catfish John	GJ A
3	Friend Of The Devil	GJ G
4	Mama Tried	GJ D
5	They Love Each Other	PJ G
6	Dark Hollow	BP A
7	Old and in the Way	GJ C
8	Wild Horses	GJ A
9	The Hobo Song	PJ G
10	Big River	GJ A
11	Dire Wolf	PJ G
12	Love oh love please come home	BP Bb
13	Panama Red	GJ D
14	Ripple	PJ G

Midnight Moonlight

Peter Rowan

Intro Intro riff x 4

Key: G
Tempo: 120
Vocals: PJ

V1

G **D**
If you ever feel lonesome, And you're down in San Antone

Am **D** **C** **F**
Beg steal or borrow two nickles or a dime and call me on the phone

G **D**
And I'll meet you at Alamo mission where we can say our prayers

Am **D**
The Holy Ghost and the Virgin mother will heal us

Em **D** **C**
As we kneel there

Chorus

In the moonlight in the midnight
In the moonlight midnight moonlight
In the moonlight in the midnight
In the moonlight midnight moonlight

V2 If you ever feel sorrow for things you have done
 With no hope for tomorrow
 In the setting of the sun
 And the ocean is howling with things that might have been
 That last good morning sunrise will be the
 brightest you've ever seen

Chorus

Jam 4 bars of G
Bb G jam
Exit jam with intro riff into V2

V3 Repeat V2 and Chorus
Intro riff to end

Notes 3/1/80 JGB (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dnibCQtdFE>)

Catfish John
Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

Key: A
Tempo: 130
Vocals: GJ

Intro | : A / C C# . . . : |

Chorus A D
Mama said, "Don't go near that river,
 A E
Don't be hangin' around old Catfish John"
 A D
But come the morning, I'd always be there
 A E A
Walkin' in his footsteps in the sweet delta dawn

V1 D A
Take me back to another morning
 D A
To a time so long ago
 D A
When the sweet magnolias blossomed
 E A
Cotton fields were white as snow

V2 Catfish John was a river hobo
Lived and died by the river bend
Looking back, I still remember
I was proud to be his friend
Chorus

Lead | : D / / / | A / / / : | x3
 | A / E / | A / / / |

V3 Born a slave in the town of Vicksburg
Traded for a chestnut mare
Lord he never spoke in anger
Though his load was hard to bear

V4? Let me dream of another morning
And a time so long ago
When the sweet magnolias blossom
And the cotton fields were white as snow

Lead2 | : D / / / | A / / / : | x3
 | A / E / | A / / / |

Chorus

Tag Walking in his footsteps in the sweet delta dawn

Notes 6/16/82 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANzJdVFABGQ>)

Friend Of The Devil

Grateful Dead

Key: G
Tempo: 100
Vocals: GJ

V1

I lit out of Reno I was trailed by twenty hounds

Didn't get to sleep that night 'til the morning came around

Set out running but I take my time, a friend of the devil is a friend of mine

If I get home before daylight, I just might get some sleep tonight

**V2 I ran into the Devil, babe, he loaned me twenty bills.
I spent the night in Utah in a cave up in the hills
Set out running but I take my time, a friend of the devil is a friend of mine
If I get home before daylight, I just might get some sleep tonight**

**V3 I ran down to the levee but the Devil caught me there
He took my twenty dollar bill and vanished in the air
Set out running but I take my time, a friend of the devil is a friend of mine
If I get home before daylight, I just might get some sleep tonight**

Lead Verse chords repeated

Bridge

Got two reasons why I cry away each lonely night

The first one's named sweet Ann Marie and she's my heart's delight

Second one is prison baby, sheriff's on my trail

And if he catches up with me I'll spend my life in jail

V4 Got a wife in Chino, babe, and one in Cherokee
 First one says she's got my child but it don't look like me
 Set out running but I take my time, a friend of the devil is a friend of mine
 If I get home before daylight, I just might get some sleep tonight

Lead2 Verse chords repeated

Outro Repeat Bridge
 Repeat V4

Mama Tried

Merle Haggard

Key: D
Tempo: 100
Vocals: GJ

Intro pickup: | / / / A B C# |

V1 D G D G
The first thing I remember knowing was a lonesome whistle blowing,
 D G A7
And a young un's dream of growing up to ride,
 D G D G
On a freight train leaving town not knowing where I'm bound,
 D A7 D
And no one could change my mind but Mama tried

V2 D C D
One and only rebel child from a family meek and mild,
Mama seemed to know what lay in store
Despite all my Sunday learning toward the bad I kept on turning
'Til Mama couldn't hold me anymore

Chorus D C D
I turned 21 in prison doing life without parole.
 Bm A
No one could steer me right but Mama tried, Mama tried
 D G D
Mama tried to raise me better, but her pleading, I denied
 A7 D
That leaves only me to blame 'cause Mama tried

Lead Through verse changes

V3 D
Dear old Daddy, rest his soul, left my Mom a heavy load,
She tried so very hard to fill his shoes
Working hours without rest, wanted me to have the best
She tried to raise me right but I refused

Chorus

Lead2 Through verse changes

Chorus

Outro Repeat "That leaves only me to blame..."

They Love Each Other

Grateful Dead

Key: G
Tempo: 100
Vocals: PJ

Intro Dedicated to the newlyweds Kevin and Carolyn

G

V1 Mary run around, sailin' up and down,

C

Looking for a show in some direction.

G

Got it from the top, it's nothing you can stop,

C

G

Lord, you know they made a fine connection. They love each other,

F

C

G

Chorus Lord you can see that it's true

F

C

G

Lord you can see that it's true

F

C

G

Lord you can see that it's true

V2 He could pass his time, around some other line

But you know he chose this place beside her.

Don't get in their way, there's nothing you can say,

Nothing that you need to add or do. They love each other.

V3 It's nothing they explain, it's like a diesel train

You better not be there when it rolls over.

And when that train rolls in you don't know where it's been,

You gotta try and see a little further. They love each other.

Dark Hollow

Bill Browning

Key: A
Tempo: 100
Vocals: BP

Intro | A / A7 / | D / / / | A / E / | A / / / |

V1 I'd rather be in some dark hollow
where the sun don't ever shine
Then to be at home alone and knowing' that you're gone
Would cause me to lose my mind

Chorus So blow your whistle freight train
Take me far on down the track
I'm going away, I'm leaving today
I'm goin', but I ain't comin' back

Lead Leslie

V2 I'd rather be in some dark hollow
where the sun don't ever shine
Then to be in some big city,
in a small room, with you upon my mind

Chorus

Lead2 Everybody get some

V3 I'd rather be in some dark hollow
Where the sun don't ever shine
Then to see you another man's darlin'
And to know that you'll never be mine

Chorus

Lead3 Everybody get some more

Outro So blow your whistle freight train
Take me far on down the track
I'm going away, I'm leaving today
I'm goin', but I ain't comin' back
I'm going away, I'm leaving today
I'm goin', but I ain't comin' back

Old and in the Way

Peter Rowan

Key: C
Tempo: 100
Vocals: GJ

Intro 3 beat pickup / Lead in

C D G C

Chorus Old and in the way, that's what I heard them say

Am C G

They used to heed the words he said, but that was yesterday

C D G C

Gold will turn to gray and youth will fade away

Am C G

They'll never care about you cause you're old and in the way

D G

V1 Once I hear tell, he was happy,

C G D

Had his share of friends and good times

C

Now, those friends have all passed on

G Em

He don't have no place called home

Am C G

Like the old dog gone astray, he's just old and in the way

Chorus

Lead Through verse changes

D G

V2 When just a boy, he left his home

C G D

Thought he'd have the world on a string

C

Now the years have come and gone

G Em

Through the streets he walks alone

Am C G

Lookin' back to a better day, feelin' old and in the way

Chorus

Tag They'll never care about you cause you're old and in the way.

Wild Horses

Rolling Stones

Key: A
Tempo: 100
Vocals: GJ

Intro Bm D A G D A

V1 C#m A C#m A
Childhood living It's easy to do
Bm D E A E
The things you wanted I bought them for you
C#m A C#m A
Graceless lady you know who I am
Bm D E A E
You know I can't let you slide through my hands

Chorus Bm D E A G D
Wild horses couldn't drag me away
Bm D A G D A
Wild wild horses we'll ride them some day.

V2 I watched you suffer a dull aching pain
Now you've decided to show me the same
No sweeping exits or offstage lines
Could make me feel bitter or treat you unkind

Chorus

Lead Through verse changes

V3 I know I've dreamed you, a sin and a lie.
I have my freedom but I don't have much time
Faith has been broken, tears must be cried
Let's do some living, after we die...

Chorus X2 Resolve to A.

The Hobo Song

Jack Bonus

Key: G
Tempo: 115
Vocals: PJ

V1 G Em C Am
Too late to feel sorrow, too late to feel pain
F Am G
He's just an old hobo and he's lost out in the rain
G Em C Am
He'll never cause trouble so don't have no fear
F Am G
He's just an old hobo and he'll soon be far away from here

Chorus B7 C Cm
He used to be a gambling man just like you
 G D G
Until he sank so low that there was nothing that no one could do
B7 C Cm
He used to be a gambling man just like you
 G D G
Until he sank so low that there was nothing that no one could do

V2 Oh, don't make him ask you, don't make him beg
He was a war hero and that's how he hurt his leg
He killed thirty injuns with one cannon ball
Now he's just an old hobo asleep out in the hall

Chorus

Lead Through verse changes, start with Leslie

V3 My wife and five children who live in L.A.
They miss their dear daddy who's gone so far away
They still have his picture, it's hung on the wall
Now he's just an old hobo asleep out in the hall

Chorus

Big River

Grateful Dead

Key: A

Tempo: 115

Vocals: GJ

A

Chorus Well I taught that weeping willow how to cry cry cry,

Taught the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.

A Tears I cried for that woman are gonna flood you big river, **D**

A E7 A
And I'm a gonna sit right here until I die.

V1

I met her accidentally in St. Paul, Minnesota,

She tore me up every time I heard her drawl that southern drawl.

Well I heard my dream went back downstream, cavortin' in Davenport.

And I followed you big river when you called.

Chorus

Lead

Through verse changes

V2

Well I followed her down to St. Lou, later on down the river,

Trader said she's been here, but she's gone, boy, she's gone.

Well I followed her down to Memphis, but she just walked off the bus.

She raised a few eyebrows and she went on down alone.

Chorus

Lead2

Through verse changes

V3

Well I've gotten on down to Baton Rouge, River Queen roll on,

Take that woman down to New Orleans, New Orleans.

I give up, I've had enough, followed my blues on down to the gulf,

She loves you big river more than me.

Chorus

Lead3

Through verse changes

Chorus

Taq

I'm gonna sit right here until I die.

Notes

12/31/78 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1lIi1K9Nb4>)

Dire Wolf

Grateful Dead

Key: G
Tempo: 130
Vocals: PJ

Intro | C /// | G /// | F /// | C /// |

V1 G Bb F
In the timbers of Fennario, the wolves are running round,
F G
The winter was so hard and cold, froze ten feet 'neath the ground.
G F G C Bb F
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me.
G F C
Please don't murder me.

V2 G Bb F
I sat down to my supper, twas a bottle of red whiskey.
F C Am
I said my prayers and went to bed, that's the last they saw of me.
Am G F C Bb F
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me.
G F C
Please don't murder me.

B1 Am G C Bb F
When I awoke, the dire wolf, six hundred pounds of sin,
F G
Was grinnin' at my window, all I said was "Come on in"
G F G C E7 Am
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me,
G F C
Please don't murder me.

B2 The wolf came in, I got my cards, we sat down for a game.
I cut my deck to the queen of spades but the cards were all the same.
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me,
Please don't murder me.

V3 In the backwash of Fennario, the black and bloody mire,
The dire wolf collects his due while the boys sing 'round the fire.
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me.
Please don't murder me.

Outro G F G C E7 Am
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me,
G F C
Please don't murder me, no no no,
G F G C Bb F
Don't murder me, I beg of you don't murder me,
G F C G F C
Please don't murder me, please don't murder me.

Bill Monroe

- V1**
- Bb Ab
As you read this letter that I write to you
Eb Bb
Sweetheart I hope you'll understand
Eb Bb
That you're the only love I knew
F7 Bb
Please forgive if you can
- V2**
- Bb Ab
Sweetheart I beg you to come home tonight
Eb Bb
I'm so blue and all alone
Eb Bb
I promise that I'll treat you right
F7 Bb
Love oh love oh please come home
- V3**
- The wind is cold and slowly creeping around
And the fire is burning low
The snow has covered up the ground
Your baby's hungry sick and cold

Peter Rowan

Vocals: GJ

F# /// | /// | G /// | /// | A /// | /// | D /// |

A **D**
Bet your woman is up in bed with ol' Panama Red.

My woman said, Hey Pedro, you're actin' crazy like a clown.

Lead Through verse and chorus changes

Chorus

Ripple

Grateful Dead

Key: G

Tempo: 130

Vocals: PJ

G **C**
If my words did glow with the gold of sunshine,
G
and my tunes were played on the harp unstrung?
C
Would you hear my voice come through the music?
G
D **C**
Would you hold it near, as it were your own?

It's a hand-me-down, the thoughts are broken, perhaps they're better left unsung?
I don't know, don't really care, let there be songs to fill the air.

Am D G C A D
Ripple in still water, when there is no pebble tossed nor wind to blow

**Reach out your hand if your cup be empty, if your cup is full, may it be again.
Let it be known there is a fountain, that was not made by the hands of men.**

**There is a road, no simple highway, between the dawn and the dark of night
And if you go, no one may follow, that path is for your steps alone.**

Chorus

**You who choose to lead must follow, but if you fall you fall alone
If you should stand, then who's to guide you? If I knew the way, I would take you home.**

**La da da da da, La da da da da, Da da da da, da da, da da da da da.
La da da da, La da da da da, La da da da, La da da da da.**