

2025-07-04-bluegrass (v 1)

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

Midnight Moonlight

Peter Rowan

Intro **Intro riff x 4**

Key: G
Tempo: 130
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.
 Jam over verse chords (1x only)
 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 Mama said, "Don't go near that river,
D
A Don't be hangin' around old Catfish John"
E
A But come the morning, I'd always be there
D
A Walkin' in his footsteps in the sweet delta dawn
E **A**

V1 A 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 / / / : | 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
Chorus

Tag **Walking in his footsteps in the sweet delta dawn**

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

Grateful Dead

Outro Repeat Bridge
Repeat V4

Mama Tried

Merle Haggard

Key: D
Tempo: 130
Vocals: GJ

Intro | D / A / | D A D - |

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 C 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

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

Dark Hollow

Bill Browning

Key: A
Tempo: 100
Vocals: BP

V1 A E A
I'd rather be in some dark hollow
 A E A
where the sun don't ever shine
 A A7 D
Then to be at home alone and knowing' that you're gone
 A E A
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 Short

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

Lead 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

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

Chorus C D G C
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 while you're old and in the way

V1 D G
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

V2 D G
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

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
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

The Hobo Song

Jack Bonus

Key: G
Tempo: 100
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 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

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: 110

Vocals: GJ

Chorus Well I taught that weeping willow how to cry cry cry,
Taught the clouds how to cover up a clear blue sky.
Tears I cried for that woman are gonna flood you big river,
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

Lead 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

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

Dire Wolf

Grateful Dead

Key: G
Tempo: 100
Vocals: PJ

Intro 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

Panama Red

Peter Rowan

Key: D
Tempo: 110
Vocals: GJ

Chorus **Bm** **A**
Panama Red, Panama Red,
 G **E7** **A**
He'll steal your woman then he'll rob your head.
 Bm **A**
Panama Red, Panama Red,
 F# **G**
On his white horse Mescalito, he comes breezin' thru town.
 A **D**
Bet your woman is up in bed with ol' Panama Red.

V1 **D** **G**
The judge don't know when Red's in town, he keeps well hidden underground.
 A **D**
Everybody's actin' lazy, fallin' out or hangin' round.
 D **G**
My woman said, Hey Pedro, you're actin' crazy like a clown.
 A **D**
Nobody feels like workin' Panama Red is back in town.

Chorus

Lead **Through verse and chorus changes**

V2 Everybody's lookin' out for him cause they know Red satisfies.
Little girls like to listen to him sing & tell sweet lies.
But when things get too confusin' honey, you're better off in bed.
I'll be searchin' all the joints in town for Panama Red.

Chorus

Ripple

Grateful Dead

Key: G

Tempo: 140

Vocals: PJ

G

C

V1

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?

D

C

G

Would you hold it near, as it were your own?

V2

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

Chorus

Ripple in still water, when there is no pebble tossed nor wind to blow

V3

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.

V4

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

V5

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.

V6

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.