

= Another One Rides the Bus ( EP ) =

Another One Rides the Bus is the debut extended play ( EP ) by American parodist " Weird Al " Yankovic . It was released in February 1981 by Placebo Records . The title song is a parody of English rock band Queen 's 1980 single " Another One Bites the Dust " . The EP also features three other songs , all of which are original recordings . All four songs on Another One Rides the Bus later appeared on Yankovic 's eponymous debut studio album ; the three original songs were re @-@ recorded for the album , while the title song is the same version that appears on the EP .

Another One Rides the Bus was released to capitalize on the recent success of the titular parody . Yankovic borrowed money from Barret " Dr. Demento " Hansen to pay for the record , and distributed them to records stores under consignment deals . Due to the underground success of the record , TK Records signed Yankovic for a while and released " Another One Bites the Dust " as a single . Only one thousand copies of this record were made , and today it is considered very rare .

= = Recording = =

The EP features the titular parody , as well as three original comedy songs , with music written by Yankovic . In April 1980 , Yankovic recorded the first song for the album , " Gotta Boogie " . The song , co @-@ written by Joe Earley , is a play on words discussing a man with a " boogie " on his finger and his quandary therein . The second song to be recorded for the EP was " Another One Rides the Bus " , on September 14 , 1980 . Yankovic wrote the song , a parody of Queen 's hit " Another One Bites the Dust " , and debuted it live on the Dr. Demento Show , hosted by Barret " Dr. Demento " Hansen . While practicing the song outside the sound booth , Yankovic met Jon " Bermuda " Schwartz who told Yankovic he was a drummer . Schwartz agreed to drum on Yankovic 's accordion case to keep a steady beat to the song . " Another One Rides the Bus " became so popular that it got Yankovic his first appearance on a TV show , The Tomorrow Show with Tom Snyder . On the show , Yankovic played his accordion and Schwartz banged on Yankovic 's accordion case and played the bulb horns .

In January 1981 , the song " Mr. Frump in the Iron Lung " was recorded . The song , an audience favorite from Yankovic 's days playing in coffeehouses at Cal Poly , describes the rather lopsided relationship between the narrator and the eponymous " Mr. Frump " in his iron lung , until the latter 's death . The final song , recorded on January 19 , 1981 , was " Happy Birthday " . A morbidly depressing birthday song detailing ails of the world , including poverty , nuclear holocaust , and eventual solar cataclysm , the song is based on the music of artist Tonio K. Only seeing two popular birthday songs at the time ? " Happy Birthday to You " by Patty and Mildred J. Hill , and " Birthday " by The Beatles ? Yankovic decided to write his own " severely twisted version of one " . The EP 's version of " Happy Birthday " is included on the Permanent Record : Al in the Box box set , and was remixed into stereo for the Hurricane Katrina charity album Laughter Is a Powerful Weapon Volume II . All three of the songs would be re @-@ recorded for Yankovic 's eponymous debut studio album .

= = Release = =

Yankovic desired to release the song on a record label , although no label wanted to sign him at the time . Thus , Yankovic borrowed some money from Dr. Demento and pressed up one thousand copies of the four @-@ track EP by himself . Yankovic then distributed the EP to various record stores , selling them through consignment deals . Yankovic released the record under Placebo Records , a one @-@ off label founded by Yankovic for the sole purpose of distributing the EPs . Due to the underground success of the record , Yankovic was eventually able to secure a short @-@ lived record deal with TK Records , who released the title song as a single . Due to the fact that only one thousand copies of this record were made , today it is considered a very rare record to locate .

= = Track listing = =

The following is adapted from the album liner notes .

= = Credits and personnel = =