

This Old Geetar

from 'Making it Big' a musical 1991

Words by Roger Hall and Philip Norman

Music by Philip Norman

This song was written to be self accompanied on guitar by the singer. It involves 'scordatura' – retuning the strings – of the guitar in this case, from bottom D A D F-sharp A D from the usual E A D G B E. It is intended as a bottle-neck blues. All chords are played using the 'bottle' (a glass bottle is best, but a slim plastic pill bottle will also work well) across the appropriate fret. The object of the exercise in the musical is to show that the singer is a beginner guitarist, but that she/he is capable of scraping through with a self accompaniment. Ham it up with slides etc, but play the guitar to the best of your ability. The strum rhythm is ad lib, but works best with two staccato chords per bar on the beat. A specific quaver-crotchet strum pattern is required in the 2nd and 4th bar of the bridge. I have notated the music in E major to help avoid avoid confuossionn the guitar, but of course with the guitar retuning it will sound in D major. The song can be sung with piano accompaniment if preferred, but maybe with the singer playing air guitar? Have fun!

The musical score is written in E major (three sharps) and 6/8 time. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 86. The first system (measures 1-4) features a vocal line starting with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady strummed pattern of chords. The second system (measures 5-8) has a vocal line with lyrics: "friend of mine I turn to ___ at the end of ev-'ry day It brings me lots of". The piano accompaniment continues with the same strummed pattern. The third system (measures 9-12) has a vocal line with lyrics: "com - fort ___ ev-'ry sing - le time I play, it's this old ___". The piano accompaniment continues with the same strummed pattern. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line: E, D, E, D, E, D, A.

This Old Geetar, p. 2

14 E A

gee-tar here of mine Yeah this old

18 E D

gee-tar here of mine It's fun-ny how a piece of wood with

23 E D E D E

six strings on its side can ei-ther help to cheer me up or make me dew-cy-

28 D A E

eyed, it's this old gee-tar here of mine Yeah this old

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33

A E B

— gee-tar here of mine Through rain or sun - ny

38

B B^b A *f*

wea-ther, when hap-py or when bored When we're to - ge - ther__ we

43

F# B D top two strings only G strings only tap guitar body *mp* E

real-ly strike a chord I sing it lot's of

48

D E D *mf* E

lul - la - bies and bal-lads from the west, And of course a lot of

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52 D E D A

coun - try: _____ they're the ones it loves the best, does this old _____

56 E A

gee-tar here of mine Yeah this old _____ gee-tar here of

61 E D

mine It's al-ways kept me com-pan - y _____ in

65 E D E D E

ev - 'ry _____ song I've sung. It's ne-ver temp-'ra - men-tal _____ al-though it's _____ high-ly

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70 D E

strung, oh this old ___ gee-tar here of mine

74 A E

yeah, this old ___ gee-tar here of mine

78 B

It may be rough and rea-dy ___ like old friends of-ten

82 B B^b A F[#]

are but hey, we're go-in' stea-dy: ___ just me and my gee-

This Old Geetar, p. 6

86

B D top two strings only tap guitar body (addresses guitar) D

tar I'm real-ly glad we met up___ I've

tap piano lid

3

3

6

6

6

91

E D E D E

ne-ver had re - grets An' I swear I don't re - gret the time it takes to clean your

96

D A E re-address audience

frets, oh you old___ gee-tar here of mine yeah you old

101

A E Spoken: 'Sing along!'

___ gee-tar here of mine this

p

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A E 'I can't hear you'

old gee-tar here of mine This

7

mf *mp*

109 A E

old gee-tar here of mine Yeah this old

my turn!

113 A rit. a tempo Stop! free time

gee - tar Here

rit. *a tempo* *Stop!* *free time*

sva - - -

118 E molto rit. two strings only E

of mine

gliss (as best as possible) gliss

f *ff*

Leo. *