

TENNESSEE WALTZ

Redd Stewart and Pee Wee King

Redd Stewart and Pee Wee King of the Golden West Cowboys wrote “Tennessee Waltz” during the winter of 1946, in the back of a truck while traveling to a show in Nashville, TN. The song tells the story of a sweetheart who loses their beloved to a friend at a dance. “Tennessee Waltz” rose to fame as a country hit for Patti Page in 1950 but was soon a crossover success for numerous other artists, including Sam Cooke, The Chieftains, and Otis Redding. In addition to its national and international commercial success, “Tennessee Waltz” is played by many college marching bands, from North Carolina’s Appalachian State University to Texas’s Baylor University. The State of Tennessee adopted “Tennessee Waltz” as a state song in 1965.

I was waltzing with my darlin’ to the Tennessee Waltz
When an old friend I happened to see.
I introduced her to my loved one and while they were waltzing,
My friend stole my sweetheart from me.

I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz,
Now I know just how much I have lost
Yes, I lost my little darlin’ the night they were playin’
The beautiful Tennessee Waltz.

I was waltzing with my darlin’ to the Tennessee Waltz
When an old friend I happened to see.
I introduced her to my loved one and while they were waltzing,
My friend stole my sweetheart from me.

I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz,
Now I know just how much I have lost
Yes, I lost my little darlin’ the night they were playin’
The beautiful Tennessee Waltz.

Tennessee Waltz

SATB

Words and Music by
Pee Wee King and
Redd Stewart
1946

Country Waltz ♩ = ♩^3

Chords: C G F *rit.* C

Soprano
mp Oo

Alto
mp Oo

Tenor
mp Oo

Bass
mp Oo

Piano
mp Oo

5

S
hmm

A
hmm
a tempo
mf I was waltz - ing with my dar - lin to the

T
hmm

B
hmm

Pno.
hmm
a tempo

Tennessee Waltz

2

9 C7 F C

S Ten - nes - see waltz,

A Ten - nes - see waltz when an old friend I hap - pened to

T Ten - nes - see waltz,

B Ten - nes - see waltz,

Pno. 9

13 G C

S

A see. I in - tro - duced her to my loved one and

T

B

Pno. 13

Tennessee Waltz

3

17 C7 F C G

S while they were waltz - ing,

A while they were waltz - ing, my friend stole my sweet-heart from

T while they were waltz - ing,

B while they were waltz - ing,

Pno. while they were waltz - ing,

21 C E7

S I re - mem - ber the night and the

A me I re - mem - ber the night and the

T I re - mem - ber the night and the

B I re - mem - ber the night and the

Pno. I re - mem - ber the night and the

Tennessee Waltz

4

25 F C

S Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

A Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

T 8 Ten - nes - see waltz, Now I know just how much I have

B Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

Pno.

29 G G7 C

S the

A Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

T 8 lost the

B Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

Pno.

Tennessee Waltz

5

33 C7 F C/G G

S
night they were play - in Oo

A
night they were play - in the beau - ti - ful Ten - nes - see

T
8 night they were play - in Oo

B
night they were play - in Oo

Pno.

37 C

S
—

A
—
waltz.

T
8 —

B
—

Pno.

I was waltz - ing with my dar - lin to the

Tennessee Waltz

6

41 C7 F C

S Ten - nes - see waltz, old friend I

A Ten - nes - see waltz, old friend I

T Ten - nes - see waltz, old friend I

B Ten - nes - see waltz — when an old friend I hap - pened to

Pno.

45 G C

S see. Oo — and

A see. I in - tro - duced her to my loved one and

T see. Oo — to my loved one and

B see. and

Pno.

Tennessee Waltz

7

49 C7 F C G7

S while they were waltz - ing, my sweet - heart from

A while they were waltz - ing, my friend stole my sweet - heart from

T while they were waltz - ing, my friend stole my sweet - heart from

B while they were waltz - ing, my friend stole my sweet - heart from

Pno. 49

53 C E7

S me. I re - mem - ber the night and the

A me. I re - mem - ber the night and the

T me. I re - mem - ber the night and the

B me. I re - mem - ber the night and the

Pno. 53

Tennessee Waltz

8

57 F C

S Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

A Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

T Ten - nes - see waltz, Now I know just how much I have

B Ten - nes - see waltz, Oo

Pno.

61 G C

S the

A Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

T lost the

B Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

Pno.

Tennessee Waltz

9

65 C7 F C/G G

S night they were play - in Oo

A night they were play - in the beau - ti - ful Ten - nes - see

T 8 night they were play - in Oo

B night they were play - in Oo

Pno. 65

69 F C *rit.*

S Oo

A waltz Oo

T 8 Oo

B Oo

Pno. 69 *rit.*

Tennessee Waltz

SSA

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Country Waltz ♩ = ♩^3

First system of musical notation for the instrumental introduction. It features four staves: Soprano I (S I), Soprano II (S II), Alto (A), and Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The melody is written for S I, S II, and A, with a piano accompaniment. The melody consists of a series of eighth notes, with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking before the final note. The piano accompaniment consists of a series of eighth notes, with a *rit.* marking before the final note. The system ends with a fermata over the final note.

Second system of musical notation, starting at measure 5. It features four staves: Soprano I (S I), Soprano II (S II), Alto (A), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked *a tempo*. The melody is written for S II and A, with a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "I was waltz-ing with my dar-lin to the". The system ends with a fermata over the final note.

9

G7 C G

S I

Ten - nes - see waltz,

S II

Ten - nes - see waltz when an old friend I hap-pened to

A

Ten - nes - see waltz,

Pno.

13

D D7 G

S I

and

S II

see In-tro-duced her to my loved one and

A

and

Pno.

17 G7 C G D

S I

S II

A

Pno.

while they were waltz-ing,

while they were waltz-ing, my friend stole my sweet-heart from

while they were waltz-ing,

21 G B7

S I

S II

A

Pno.

mf I re - mem - ber the night and the

me. *mf* I re - mem - ber the night and the

mf I re - mem - ber the night and the

25 C G

S I

Ten-nes - see waltz, Oo

S II

Ten-nes see waltz, Now I know just how much I have

A

Ten-nes - see waltz, Oo

Pno.

29 D D7 G

S I

the

S II

lost Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

A

lost Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

Pno.

33 G7 C G/D D

S I

S II

A

Pno.

night they were play-in Oo

night they were play-in the beau - ti - ful Ten - nes - see

night they were play-in Oo

37 G

S I

S II

A

Pno.

waltz. I was waltz-ing with my dar-lin to the

to the

41

G7 C G

S I

Ten - nes - see waltz, old friend I

S II

Ten - nes - see — waltz — when an old friend I hap-pened to

A

Ten - nes - see waltz, old friend I

Pno.

45

D D7 G

S I

see. to my loved one — and

S II

see — In-tro-duced her to my loved one — and

A

see. Oo — and

Pno.

49 G7 C G D

S I

S II while they were waltz-ing,

A while they were waltz-ing, my friend stole my sweet-heart from

Pno. while they were waltz-ing,

53 G B7

S I

S II I re - mem - ber the night and the

A me. I re - mem - ber the night and the

Pno. I re - mem - ber the night and the

57 C G

S I

Ten-nes - see waltz, Oo

S II

Ten-nes - see waltz, now I know just how much I have

A

Ten-nes - see waltz, Oo

Pno.

61 D D7 G

S I

the

S II

lost Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

A

lost Yes I lost my lit - tle dar - lin the

Pno.

65 G7 C G D

S I

S II

A

Pno.

night they were play-in Oo

night they were play-in the beau - ti - ful Ten - nes - see

night they were play-in Oo

69 C G

S I

S II

A

Pno.

waltz

rit.