

## *Effects Pedal for a Mandolin or Banjo???*

Don't gimme no pedals, no special effects...  
Turning acoustic music into audible train wrecks...  
Maturity is a thing that oft comes with age...  
Why not spend your dime and your time, "learning to play"?

When I was fourteen, I was all about FUZZ...  
And also BIG DECIBALS and all that that does...  
Now that I'm 60 and my hearing's impaired...  
I prefer ACOUSTIC MUSIC to all others compared...

Harmony and melody sound better from wood...  
But I traded it for FUZZ, DECIBALS and other things not good...  
Eventually, I smartened and studied the 'notes'...  
I learned scale and chord theory and loud music I smote...

Now much older, I can see through the noise...  
I no longer need to spend hard-earned money on 'toys'...  
Pedals, effects and loud amps set your nerves ajar...  
I prefer my acoustic mandolin, banjo, fiddle or guitar...

Traditional music brought me around...  
The Norman Blake, Doc Watson and Tony Rice sound...  
Them fellers can play and they do it so good...  
They got me to practicing so that some day, I could!

John Hartford, Earl Scruggs and Bill Monroe...  
Ralph Stanley, Doyle Lawson and all that they know...  
Bela Fleck, Tony Trishka, David Grisman and the like...  
Bluegrass and old timers, stand close to the mic...

Now I'm a picker that can read, write and draw...  
Notes, chords, scales, diagrams and musical law...  
I can listen to music and play it by ear...  
Then program it in Tabledit, so that others can hear...

Musical education is a long, hard, tenuous fight...  
But I can turn out arrangements now, night after night...  
For banjo, mandolin, fiddle and guitar...  
Desktop publishing has taken it far...

Spend your time wisely, lads and lasses do learn...  
For tomorrow is yours, you have time to earn...  
The benefits of study and a practicing life...  
Will reap its rewards as you live out your life...