

"Orange Blossom Special" - MANDOLIN in D

Ervin T. Rouse

Arranged & Tablited by
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BanjoTom2.ORG

D: Mandoilin...

D

(D)

Look - y yon - der com - in'...

D: Rhythm Mandolin...

D: Rhythm Mandolin...

(D)

(D)

(D)

6

Com - in' down the rail - _____ road _____ track... I said,

(D)

(D)

G

(G)

(G)

11

Look - y yon - der com - in'... Com - in' down the

G

(G)

(G)

16

D

A

0 0 3 ^{Sl}→ 4 | 0 | 0 0 | 4 4 4 3 | 4 0

rail - road track... It's the Or - ange Bloss - som Spe - cial...

D

A

3↑ 3↑ 10↑ 10↑ 10↑ 10↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑

2 2 9 9 9 9 4 4 4 4

0 0 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2

B B B B B B B B B B

(A)

(A)

D

21

0 0 0 3 | 0 5 3 4 | 0

Bring -in' my ba - by back...

(A)

(A)

D

5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 5↑ 10↑ 10↑

4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 9 9

2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 7 7

B B B B B B B B B B

G: MANDOLIN SOLO...

C

26

2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 2↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑

5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B

G: Rhythm Mandolin...

C

10↑ 10↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 3↑ 8↑ 8↑ 8↑ 8↑

9 9 2 2 2 2 7 7 7 7

7 7 0 0 0 0 5 5 5 5

B B B B B B B B B B

31

D G (G)

0↑ 0↑ 0 0↑ 0↑ 0 | 0↑ 0↑ 0 0↑ 0↑ 0 | 2↑ 2↑ 2 2↑ 2↑ 2 | 2↑ 2↑ 2 2↑ 2↑ 2 | 2↑ 2↑ 2 2↑ 2↑ 2

4 4 4↓ 4 4 4↓ | 4 4 4↓ 4 4 4↓ | 5 5 5↓ 5 5 5↓ | 5 5 5↓ 5 5 5↓ | 5 5 5↓ 5 5 5↓

B B B B B B | B B B B B B | B B B B B B | B B B B B B | B B B B B B

D G (G)

10↑ 10↑ | 10↑ 10↑ | 3↑ 3↑ | 3↑ 3↑ | 3↑ 3↑ | 3↑ 3↑

9 9 | 9 9 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 2 2

7 7 B 7 7 B | 7 7 B 7 7 B | 0 0 B 0 0 B | 0 0 B 0 0 B | 0 0 B 0 0 B

36

C D

2↑ 2↑ 2 2↑ 2↑ 2 | 3↑ 3↑ 3 3↑ 3↑ 3 | 3↑ 3↑ 3 3↑ 3↑ 3 | 0↑ 0↑ 0 0↑ 0↑ 0

5 5 5↓ 5 5 5↓ | 2 2 2↓ 2 2 2↓ | 2 2 2↓ 2 2 2↓ | 4 4 4↓ 4 4 4↓

B B B B B B | B B B B B B | B B B B B B | B B B B B B

C D

3↑ 3↑ | 8↑ 8↑ | 8↑ 8↑ | 8↑ 8↑ | 10↑ 10↑

2 2 | 7 7 | 7 7 | 7 7 | 9 9

0 0 B 0 0 B | 5 5 B 5 5 B | 5 5 B 5 5 B | 7 7 B 7 7 B

From Wikipedia:

The fiddle tune "Orange Blossom Special", about the passenger train of the same name, was written by Ervin T. Rouse (1917-1981) in 1938. The original recording was created by Ervin and Gordon Rouse in 1939. It is considered the best known fiddle tune of the twentieth century and is often called simply The Special. It has been referred to as "the fiddle player's national anthem".

By the 1950s, it had become a perennial favorite at bluegrass festivals, popular for its rousing energy. For a long time no fiddle player would be hired for a bluegrass band unless he could play it.

Orange Blossom Special was the official theme song (1949-1977) for the world famous Texas Cowgirls basketball team (owner sports promoter Dempsey Hovland). The Cowgirls barnstormed playing men's basketball rules against male opponants, winning 80% of their 160 or more games per season. The team decked with bolaros, western hats, holsters and pistols over their basketball uniforms entered the courts to the tune of Orange Blossom Special. Dropping an article of western fashion with each fancy layup, pregame ,setting the crowds on fire.

"For many years Orange Blossom Special has been not only a train imitation piece, but also a vehicle to exhibit the fiddler's pyrotechnic virtuosity. Performed at breakneck tempos and with imitative embellishments that evoke train wheels and whistles, OBS is guaranteed to bring the blood of all but the most jaded listeners to a quick, rolling boil."

—Norm Cohen, author, Long Steel Rail: The Railroad in American Folksong
 Johnny Cash named his 1965 album after the song. While bluegrass performers tend to play it as strictly an instrumental, Cash sang the lyrics, and replaced the fiddle parts with two harmonicas. Florida-native Vassar Clements also often played it during his live performances.