

# Take Me Out to the Ball Game

START

**A** **A** **A** **G** **#** **A** **A** **A** **B** **B** **B** **A** **G** **B**  
 Katie Casey was baseball mad, Had the fever and had

**B** **B** **#** **#** **D** **E** **B** **B** **B** **#** **E** **B**  
 it bad. Just to root for the home town crew, Ev'ry sou

**#** **E** **A** **A** **A** **A** **G** **#** **A** **A** **A** **B** **B** **B** **A**  
 Katie blew. On a Sat - ur - day her young beau Called to see if

**G** **B** **B** **B** **A** **#** **#** **#** **A** **B** **#** **A** **E**  
 she'd like to go To see a show, but Miss Kate said "No,

**E** **#** **#** **A** **B** **#** **A**  
 I'll tell you what you can do:"

## MOST POPULAR CHORUS

**D** **D** **B** **A** **#** **A** **E** **D** **D** **B** **A** **#** **A**  
 Take me out to the ball game, Take me out with the crowd;

**B** **#** **B** **#** **G** **A** **B** **G** **E** **B** **B** **B** **#**  
 Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack, I don't care if

**D** **E** **#** **B** **A** **#** **E** **D** **D** **B** **A** **#** **A** **E**  
 I never get back, Let me root, root, root for the home team,

**E** **D** **E** **#** **G** **A** **B** **B** **#** **D** **D**  
 If they don't win, it's a shame. For it's one, two,

**D** **#** **B** **A** **#** **A** **B** **#** **D** **END**  
 three strikes, you're out, At the old ball game.

# Lyrics

(Below are the lyrics of the 1908 version, which is out of copyright.)

Katie Casey was baseball mad,  
Had the fever and had it bad.  
Just to root for the home town crew,  
Ev'ry sou\*  
Katie blew.  
On a Saturday her young beau  
Called to see if she'd like to go  
To see a show, but Miss Kate said "No,  
I'll tell you what you can do:"

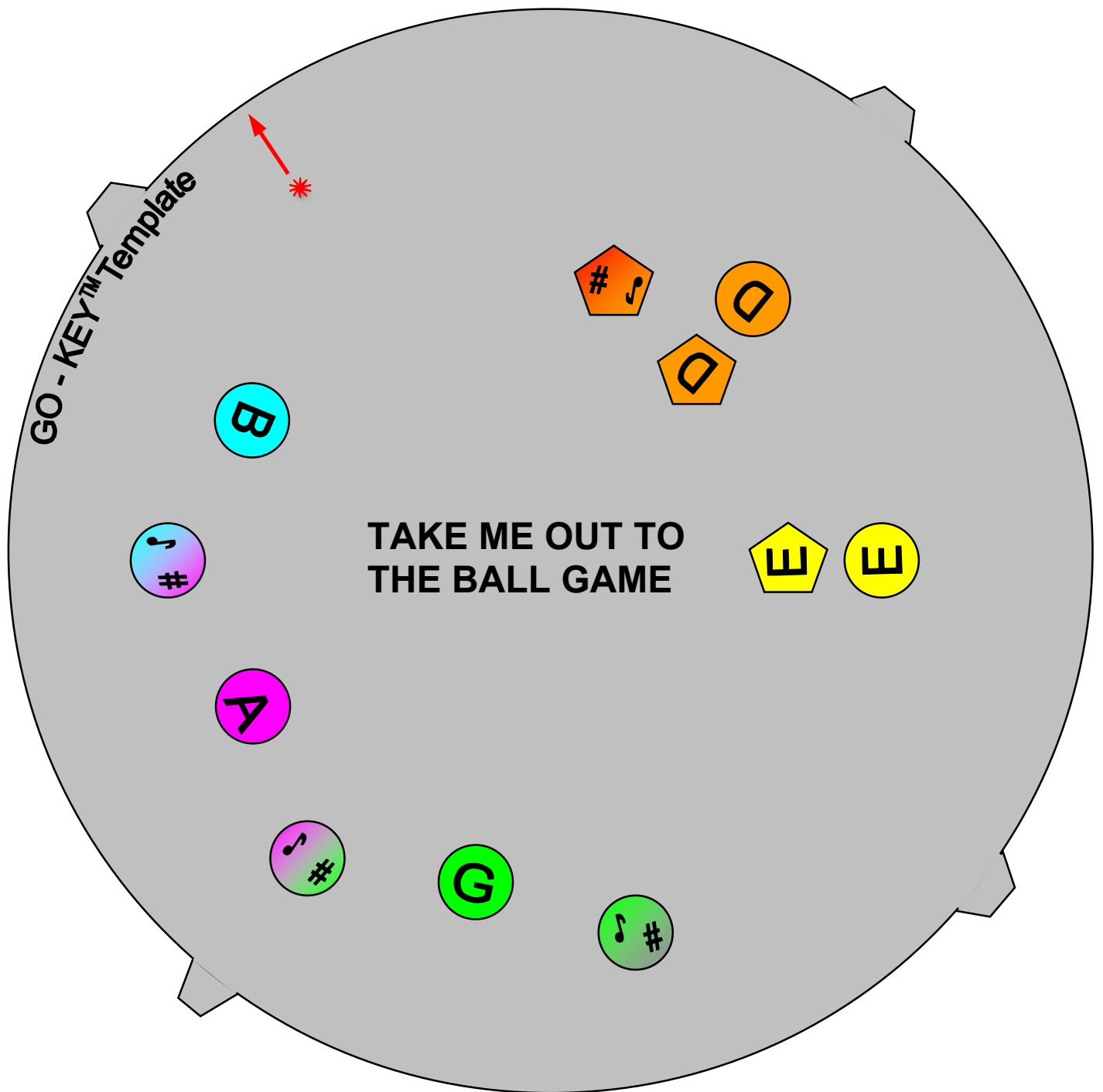
## Chorus:

*Take me out to the ball game,  
Take me out with the crowd;  
Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack,  
I don't care if I never get back.  
Let me root, root, root for the home team,  
If they don't win, it's a shame.  
For it's one, two, three strikes, you're out,  
At the old ball game.*

Katie Casey saw all the games,  
Knew the players by their first names.  
Told the umpire he was wrong,  
All along,  
Good and strong.  
When the score was just two to two,  
Katie Casey knew what to do,  
Just to cheer up the boys she knew,  
She made the gang sing this song:

## Chorus

\* The term "sou", a coin of French origin, was at the time common slang for a low-denomination coin.



## History and Origin

**"Take Me Out to the Ball Game"** is a 1908 Tin Pan Alley song by Jack Norworth and Albert Von Tilzer which has become the unofficial anthem of North American baseball, although neither of its authors had attended a game prior to writing the song. The song's chorus is traditionally sung during the middle of the seventh inning of a baseball game. Fans are generally encouraged to sing along, and at some ballparks, the words "home team" are replaced with the team name. Jack Norworth, while riding a subway train, was inspired by a sign that said "Baseball Today – Polo Grounds". In the song, Katie's beau calls to ask her out to see a show. She accepts the date, but only if her date will take her out to the baseball game. The words were set to music by Albert Von Tilzer. (Norworth and Von Tilzer finally saw their first Major League Baseball games 32 and 20 years later, respectively.) The song was first sung by Norworth's then-wife Nora Bayes and popularized by many other vaudeville acts. It was played at a ballpark for the first known time in 1934, at a high-school game in Los Angeles; it was played later that year during the fourth game of the 1934 World Series. The most famous recording of the song was credited to "Billy Murray and the Haydn Quartet", even though Murray did not sing on it. The confusion, nonetheless, is so pervasive that, when "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Recording Industry Association of America as one of the 365 top "Songs of the Century", the song was credited to Billy Murray, implying his recording of it as having received the most votes among songs from the first decade. The first recorded version was by Edward Meeker. Meeker's recording was selected by the Library of Congress as a 2010 addition to the National Recording Registry, which selects recordings annually that are "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".

### Notable Uses;

- 1932, In the background music for Joe E. Brown's movie Fireman, Save My Child.
- 1935, In Marx Brothers' film A Night at the Opera.
- 1941, In movie Meet John Doe with Gary Cooper.
- 1949, Sung by Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra in the MGM musical film, Take Me Out to the Ball Game.
- 1950, Broadcast on The Ed Sullivan Show, the DeMarco Sisters sing a swing version with alternate lyrics.
- 1954, A version by Stuart McKay.
- 1955, In an episode of I Love Lucy, Harpo Marx performed a harp rendition of the song.
- 1959, Bing Crosby included the song in a medley on his album Join Bing and Sing Along.
- 1978, A version is heard during the end credits of the film The Bad News Bears Go To Japan.
- 1985, In Kidsongs "A Day at Old MacDonald's Farm", which shows the kids playing baseball.
- 1988, Sports Illustrated writer Frank Deford constructed a fanciful story of the song
- 1994, Radio station WJMP, played the song continuously during the Major League Baseball players' strike.
- 1995, In the ER episode "Hell and High Water", Doug Ross gets child singing song to keep conscious.
- 2001, Nike aired a commercial with Major League Baseball players singing lines in their native languages
- 2001, children's book Take Me Out of the Bathtub featuring silly words to well-known song.
- 2006, Jim Burke authored and illustrated a children's book version of "Take Me Out To The Ballgame".
- 2006, Gatorade used an instrumental version of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" in a commercial.
- 2007, Esurance's commercial used the song about the company with the same tune.
- 2008, Andy Strasberg, Bob Thompson and Tim Wiles wrote a book on the history of the song.
- 2008, Used in Casey at the Bat, a setting of the poem by Ernest L. Thayer for concert band and narrator.
- 2008, The song won the Songwriters Hall of Fame Towering Song Award
- 2009, The NHL used the song to promote the NHL Winter Classic
- 2010, San Francisco Giants hosted a Jerry Garcia tribute night, song was played by estimated 9,000 kazoos.
- 2016, Bill Murray impersonated Daffy Duck as he sang song while at game 3 of the World Series.