

# Tennessee Waltz

START

-----C-----

**C** **D** **E** **G** **C** **D** **E** **G** **C** **D** **E** **G** **E** **D** **C**

I was dancing with my darling to the Ten - nes - see Waltz -

-----F-----

**A** **C** **D** **C** **G** **C** **A** **G** **E** **D** **C** **D** **E** **G**

-- When an old friend I happened to see Introduced him/her

-----C-----

**C** **D** **E** **G** **C** **D** **E** **G** **E** **D** **C** **A** **C** **C** **G**

to my loved one and while they were dancing My friend stole

-----C-----

**A** **E** **B** **D** **C** **C** **D** **E** **G** **E** **D** **E** **E** **D**

my sweetheart from me. I re - mem - ber the night and the Ten -

-----F-----

**C** **A** **G** **A** **B** **C** **A** **G** **E** **A** **G** **D** **C** **D** **E**

nes - see waltz Now I know just how much I have lost Yes I lost

-----C-----

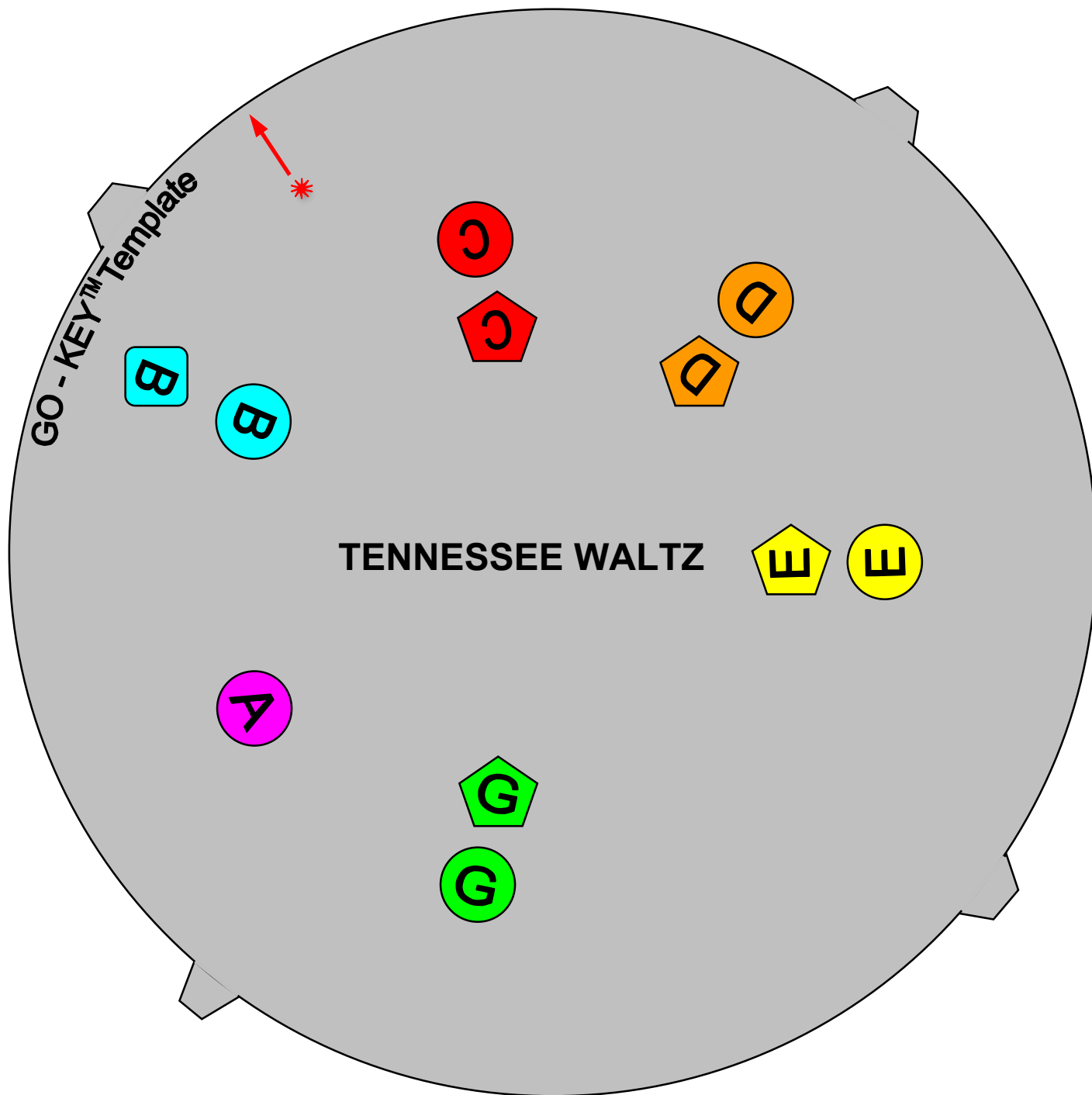
**G** **C** **D** **E** **G** **C** **D** **E** **G** **E** **D** **C** **A** **B** **C**

my little darling on the night they were playing The bea -

-----C-----

**G** **A** **E** **B** **D** **C** END

- uti - ful Tennessee Waltz



## History and Origin

"**Tennessee Waltz**" is a popular country music song with lyrics by Redd Stewart and music by Pee Wee King written in 1946 and first released in January 1948. The song became a multimillion seller via a 1950 recording – as "The Tennessee Waltz" – by Patti Page. As of 1974, it was the biggest-selling song ever in Japan. The popularity of "Tennessee Waltz" also made it the fourth official song of the state of Tennessee in 1965. Pee Wee King, Redd Stewart, and their fellow Golden West Cowboys members were en route to Nashville "close to Christmas in 1946" when King and Stewart, who were riding in a truck carrying the group's equipment, heard Bill Monroe's new song "Kentucky Waltz" on the radio. Stewart had an idea to write a Tennessee waltz using the melody of King's theme song: "No Name Waltz", and wrote the lyrics on a matchbox as he and King thought up the words.[4] King and Stewart presented "Tennessee Waltz" to music publisher Fred Rose the next day, and Rose adjusted one line of Stewart's lyric: "O the Tennessee waltz, O the Tennessee Waltz," to "I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz." A considerable amount of time passed before Pee Wee King's Golden West Cowboys were able to record "Tennessee Waltz." Their recording was made in a 2 December 1947 session at the RCA Victor Studio in Chicago. Its release as Victor (20-2680) was noted the following month.

### Notable Uses:

- 1948, A version by Cowboy Copas, a former member of the Golden West Cowboys was released.
- 1950, Patti Page recorded the song – as "The Tennessee Waltz".
- 1950, The Fontane Sisters made their first solo recording of "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1950, Spike Jones and his City Slickers recorded a parody with singers sporting Yiddish accents.
- 1957, Ivo Robić recorded "Tennessee Waltz" for his album *Cowboyske Pjesme*.
- 1958, Margaret Whiting in album 'Margaret'.
- 1959, Recorded by both Bobby Comstock & the Counts and Jerry Fuller.
- 1959, Connie Francis in album 'Country & Western Golden Hits'.
- 1960, Lenny Welch, Kitty Wells in 'Kitty's Choice'.
- 1962, Patsy Cline also recorded The Tennessee Waltz for Decca records.
- 1962, Damita Jo had a non-charting single release of "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1962, Pat Boone in album 'I'll See You in My Dreams'.
- 1964, Sam Cooke recorded a double-time version of "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1964, Recorded in a rock and roll ballad style by Alma Cogan.
- 1965, Al Hirt released a version on his album, *Live at Carnegie Hall*.
- 1966, Ray Brown & the Whispers had a #4 hit in Australia with a rockabilly version.
- 1966, Otis Redding recorded a version of "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1966, Manfred Mann included a version of the song on their number-one EP.
- 1967, Dobie Gray recorded "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1968, Dottie West in album 'Feminine Fancy'.
- 1968, Johnny Jones recorded with his deep soul rendition of "Tennessee Waltz".
- 1971, Cymarron recorded "Tennessee Waltz" in American Sound Studio in Memphis.
- 1972, American Spring recorded a cover of "Tennessee Waltz" to open their debut album, *Spring*.
- 1972, David Bromberg includes a live version on his album, *Demon in Disguise*, on Columbia Records.
- 1974, In Danish-language rendering "Den Gamle Tennessee Waltz" by Birthe Kjær.
- 1978, Anne Murray in album 'Let's Keep It That Way'.
- 1979, Lacy J. Dalton recorded "Tennessee Waltz" for her self-titled debut album.
- 1981, Elvis Presley, Billie Jo Spears in 'Country Girl'.
- 1981, Emmylou Harris in album 'Cimarron'.
- 1983, The song was featured on the James Brown album *Bring It On* (Churchill Records).
- 1990, American R&B and Little Willie Littlefield recorded a version on his album.
- 1993, Holly Cole in album 'Don't Smoke in Bed'.
- 1993, LaVern Baker in album 'Woke Up This Mornin'.
- 1995, Tom Jones backed by The Chieftains in album 'Long Black Veil'.
- 2002, Eva Cassidy in album 'Imagine'.
- 2002, Norah Jones performed "Tennessee Waltz" during a live show at the House of Blues in New Orleans.
- 2004, Leonard Cohen in his 2004 album 'Dear Heather'.
- 2009, Pete Molinari in album 'Today, Tomorrow and Forever'.
- 2013, Kelly Clarkson performed the song at the Grammy Awards as part of a tribute to Patti Page.