Listen to the Mockingbird

Traditional

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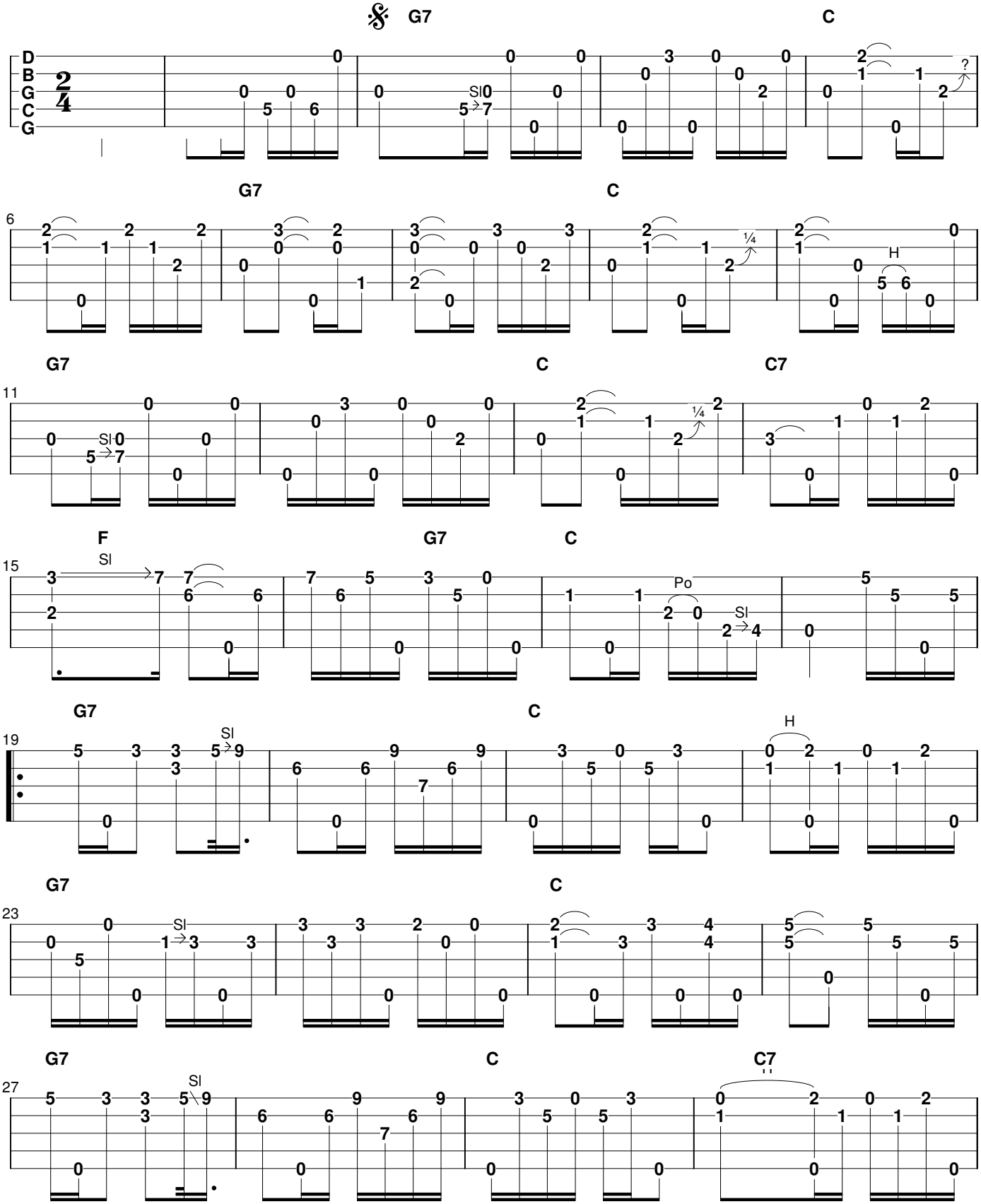

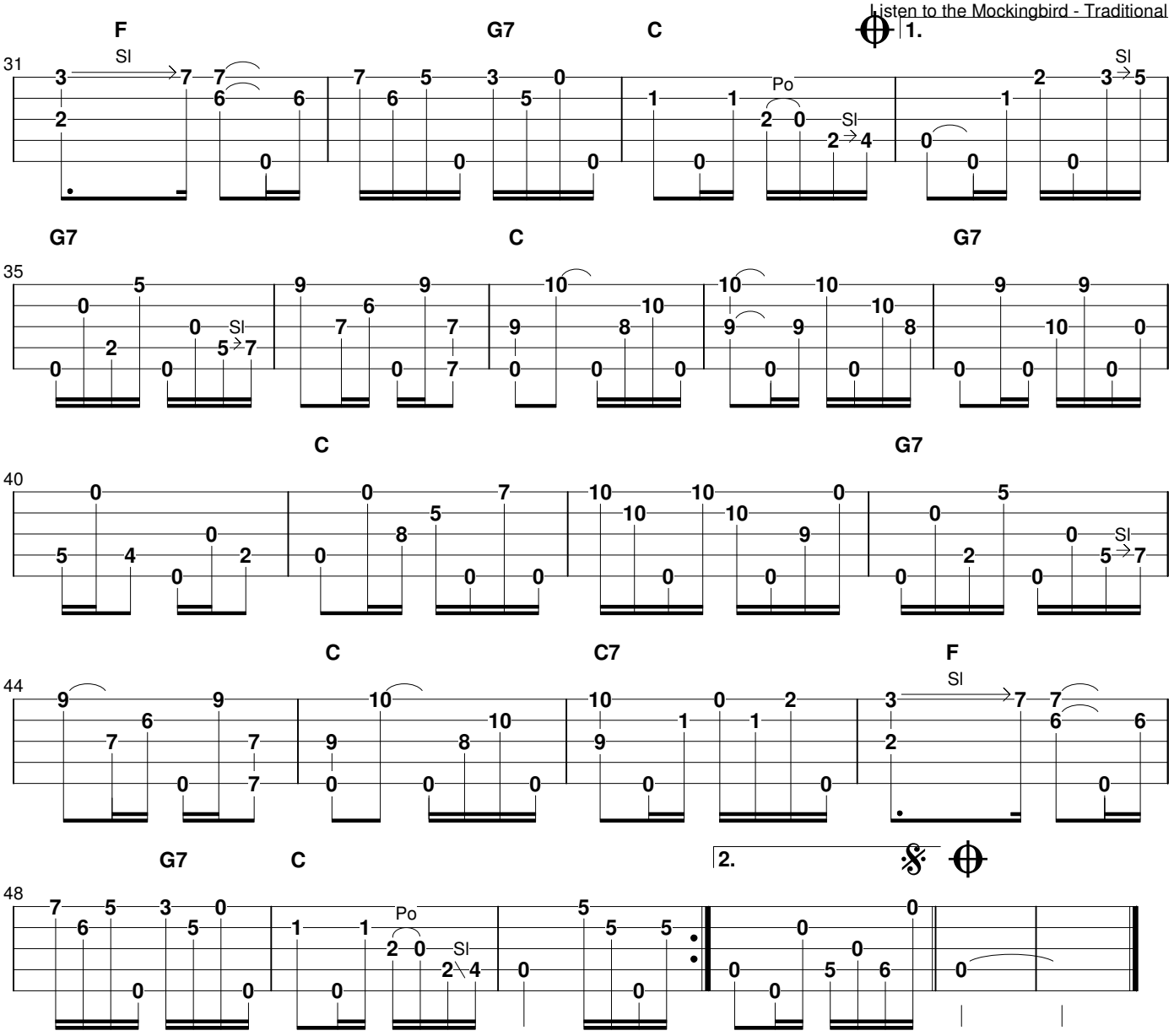

I've played this arrangement of the old trick fiddling tune for may years now, and I'm still fond of it. It's the only tune in this collection in regular C tuning. The first A part is almost straight Scruggs style, except for a little melodic figure at the end, and I've even borrowed a lick, the transition between measures 7 and 8, from Earl's Home Sweet Home, which I believe he reports came from pickers before him. The B-part, of course, slightly imitates the Mockingbird's singing, though far more modestly than the fiddle version.

The up the neck variant of the A part is more of a work-out, with some carefully placed bass note slides and runs juxtaposed with the upper register melody. These require some decent left hand stretches that I rarely put myself through anymore, but I can still reach these. Measure 36 has one of the few instances where I fret the fifth string, something else I almost never do anymore. It's part of a melodic double stop figure, and it will take a little practice.