

Old Billy Hell

Traditional

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G

D
B 2
G 4
D 4
G

C D7 G

5

C D7 G

9

D7 G

13

3 4

1. D7 G Up the neck break

17

3 4

C

21

Detailed description: This is a guitar tablature for the song 'Old Billy Hell'. It consists of five systems of music, each with a four-line staff representing the guitar strings. The first system starts with a G chord and a 2/4 time signature. The second system starts with a C chord. The third system starts with a C chord. The fourth system starts with a D7 chord. The fifth system starts with a C chord. The tablature includes various fret numbers (0-14), slurs, and accents. Chord changes are indicated by letters C, D7, and G. A '3/4' time signature appears in the fourth system. A '1.' measure in the fifth system is labeled 'Up the neck break'. The piece ends with a C chord.

C D7 G

25 10 10 10 9 0 0 13 15 17 19 19 17 21 15

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

D7 G

29 17 17 19 17 19 0 0 0 13 15 17 19 19 17 21 15

3 15 15 17 15 2 12 14 13 15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

4 0 0 0 0 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

D7 G 2. D7 G

33 17 17 19 17 19 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

3 15 15 17 15 2 12 14 2 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

4 0 0 0 4 0 0 0 0 0 7 0 0 0 0 0

The image displays three systems of guitar fingerboard notation. Each system consists of a treble clef staff with fret numbers and a bass clef staff with fret numbers. Chord changes are indicated by letters (C, D7, G) above the staff. Measure numbers (25, 29, 33) are placed at the beginning of each system. The notation includes various techniques such as slurs, slides (SL), and triplets. The first system (measures 25-28) has a C chord, then D7, then G. The second system (measures 29-32) has D7 and G chords. The third system (measures 33-36) has D7 and G chords, with a second ending marked '2.' for measures 35-36.

This elegantly simple tune comes from fiddler Estill Bingham (1899-1990) who lived in Bell County in eastern Kentucky. It is a crooked tune, with an extra beat in the high part.