

Poosum on the Rail

Traditional

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G

2/4

SL 0 2 → 5

0 0 2 → 4

SL 5 → 8 8 0 7 → 9

C G

0 0 0 9 10 0 9 9 0 0 0 0 0 0 8 8 0 0 2

D7 G

SL 0 2 → 5

SL 0 2 → 4

SL 5 → 8 8 0 10 12

C G

SL 12 → 9

SL 7 → 9

SL 5 → 7

D7 G C

SL 0 2 → 4

0 0 5 0 7 0 1 0 1 2 SL 0 2 → 4

G D7 G

SL 0 2 → 4

0 0 5 0 7 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 7 0

C D7 G

SL 0 2 → 4

0 0 7 0 0 0 0 2 → 4 0 5 0 0 7 0

C D7 G

1 2 1 2 3 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

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

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

C G D7

1. G 2. G

This tune comes from a 1930 Victor recording of the Mississippi Possum Hunters, with Lonny Ellis playing the fiddle on this tune. Reportedly composed by Ellis, the B part is basically yet another endeavor in the long struggle to find a second part for that ubiquitous melody. The tune has a lot of melodic anticipation, where the first note of the melody precedes the beat. This occurs at the beginning of every phrase, and in the A part, note especially the transition to the IV chord (C) at the end of measures 4 and 12.