

Deep River Blues

Traditional

Arrangement (c) copyright 2010 by Donald J. Borchelt

E (D) E♭ (D♭)

D
A
F#
D
A

E (D) A7 (G7) E (D)

5

B7 (A7)

8

E (D) E♭ (D♭) E (D)

11

A7 (G7) E (D) B7 (A7)

14

E (D)

1.

17

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E♭ (D♭) E (D) A7 (G7)

20

E (D) B7 (A7)

23

E (D) E♭ (D♭)

26

E (D) A7 (G7) E (D)

29

B7 (A7) E (D)

32

2.

35

This old country blues was recorded by the Delmore Brothers back in 1933 as Big River Blues. This setting is inspired by Doc Watson's classic version. Instead of taking a linear approach to the blues, I've tried to stay true to the feel of the Travis style pattern picking which Watson employs, without being a complete slave to it. The banjo is tuned to open D, so you will have to capo on the 2nd fret to be in the usual guitar key. Open D is excellent for this approach to country blues.