

"Maybe our forefathers couldn't keep their language together when they were taken away from Africa, but this - the blues - was a language we invented to let people know we had something to say. And we've been saying it pretty strong ever since."

.....B. B. King

The Thrill is Gone



His reign as 'King of the Blues' has been as long as that of any monarch on earth. Yet B.B. King continues to wear his crown well. At nearly 80 - Born September 16, 1925, - he is still light on his feet, singing and playing the blues with relentless passion. For more than half a century, Riley B. King has defined the blues for a worldwide audience. Since he started recording in the 1940s, he has released over fifty albums, many of them classics.

B.B.'s first big break came in 1948 when he performed on Sonny Boy Williamson's radio program on KWEM out of West Memphis. This led to steady engagements at the Sixteenth Avenue Grill in West Memphis, and later to a ten-minute spot on black-staffed and managed Memphis radio station WDIA. "King's Spot," became so popular, it was expanded and became the "Sepia Swing Club."

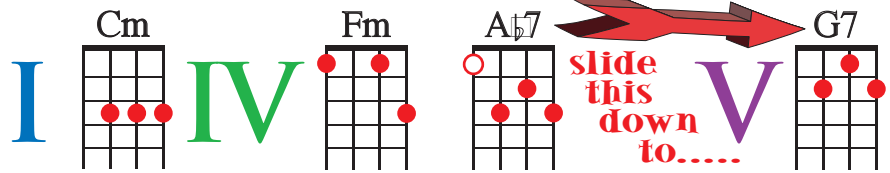
Soon B.B. needed a catchy radio name. What started out as Beale Street Blues Boy was shortened to Blues Boy King, and eventually B.B. King.

In 1956, B.B. and his band played an astonishing 342 one-night stands. From the chitlin circuit with its small-town cafes, juke joints, and country dance halls to rock palaces, symphony concert halls, universities, resort hotels and amphitheaters, nationally and internationally, B.B. has become the most renowned blues musician of the past 40 years.

B.B. was inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1984 and into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

B.B. continues to tour extensively, averaging over 250 concerts per year around the world.

B.B.'s most popular crossover hit, the 1970's "The Thrill Is Gone," went to #15 on the pop charts.



Cm

Thrill is gone, the thrill is gone away

Fm

The thrill is gone, baby

Cm

The thrill is gone away

Ab7and slide it down to **G7**

You know you done me wrong, baby

Cm

And you'll be sorry some day

Cm

The thrill is gone, it's gone away from me

Fm

The thrill is gone, baby

Cm

The thrill is gone away from me

Ab7and slide it down to **G7**

Although I'll still live on

Cm

But so lonely I'll be

Cm

The thrill is gone, It's gone away for good

Fm

Oh the thrill is gone, baby

Cm

It's gone away for good

Ab7and slide it down to **G7**

Some day I know I'll be over it all baby

Cm

Like I know I know a good man should

Cm

You know I'm free free now baby, I'm free from your spell

Fm

Oh I'm free, free, free now

Cm

I'm free from your spell

Ab7and slide it down to **G7**

And now that its all over

Cm

All I can do is wish you well