

KANSAS CITY

by Jerry Leiber &
Mike Stoller 1951

The origin of the song is a matter of some dispute. Although the song is usually credited to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller a recording of an identical song entitled "KC Loving" dates from around the same time and is credited to Little Willie Littlefield, who also recorded it. However, Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller are one of the greatest song-writing teams in the history of rock 'n' roll. During the period of their most intense productivity, from the mid-'50s to the early '60s, they wrote, arranged and produced a series of pop classics for artists such as Elvis Presley ('Hound Dog', 'Jailhouse Rock'), The Coasters ('Charlie Brown', etc), Ben E King ('Stand By Me') and the Drifters ('There Goes My Baby'). In recent years their work has been showcased and celebrated in the internationally successful musical, Smokey Joe's Café.

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz • August 2006 • City Songs

I'm goin' to Kansas City, Kansas City, here I come

I'm goin' to Kansas City, Kansas City, here I come

They got a crazy way of loving there and I'm goin' to get me some

I'll be standing on the corner - of Twelfth Street and Vine

I'm gonna be standing on the corner- of Twelfth Street and Vine

With my Kansas City baby an a bottle of Kansas City wine

Well, I might take a train, I might take a plane

But if I have to walk I'm gonna get there just the same

I'm goin' to Kansas City, Kansas City, here I come

They got a crazy way of loving there and I'm goin' to get me some

The second verse is often omitted, but here it is for you to try.....

I'm gonna pack my clothes, leave at the break of dawn

I'm gonna pack my clothes, leave at the break of dawn

Everybody will be sleeping , nobody will know where I've gone

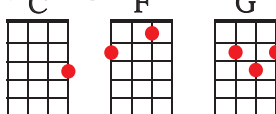
Cause if I stay in town, I know I'm gonna die

Gotta find a friendly city and that's the reason why

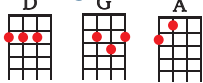
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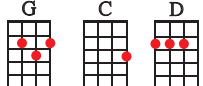
play it in C



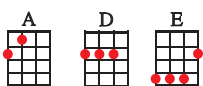
or try it in D



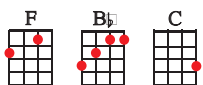
or in G



or A



how about F



or even in E

