Hush-a-bye, Ma Baby

Missouri Waltz

Lyric by J. R. Shannon
Original Melody by John Valentine Eppe
Arr. for piano by Frederic Knight Logan

The Official State Song of Missouri
"Hush-a-bye, Ma Baby"  

J.R. SHANNON  
(ASCAP)  

THE MISSOURI WALTZ  
SONG  

FREDERICK KNIGHT LOGAN  
(ASCAP)  

INTRO. Slowly and dreamily  

Hush-a-bye, ma baby, slumber-time is comin' soon;  
Rest yo' head up-on my breast while Mom-my hums a tune;  
The sand-man is callin' where shad-ows are fallin',  
While the soft breezes sigh as in days long gone by.  

* If necessary, the lowest note in right hand chords and octaves, may be omitted.  

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'Way down in Missouri where I heard this melody,

When I was a little child on my Mommy's knee; The

old folks were humming; Their banjos were strummin' So__

sweet and low.

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Strum, strum, strum, strum, strum, Seems I hear those banjos playin' once again, Hum, hum, hum, That same old plaintive strain.

Interlude
Hear that mournful melody, It just haunts you the whole day long,
And you wander in dreams back to Dixie, it seems, When you hear that old-time song.

Hush-a-bye, ma baby, go to sleep on Mom-my's knee, Journey back to

[Hush 5]
Dixie-land in dreams again with me; It seems like your Mom-my is there once again, And the old folks were strum-min' that same old refrain.

'Way down in Missou-ri where I learned this lul-la-by. When the stars were blink-in' and the moon was climb-in' high, Seems I hear voices low, as in days long ago Sing-in' hush a.-bye.
ON June 22, 1949, the 65th General Assembly of legend and history-steeped Missouri adopted the "MISSOURI WALTZ" as the state's official song.

THIS long had seemed both logical and inevitable; for ever since 1914, when Frederic Knight Logan scored John Valentine Eppel's enchanting melody to which, two years later, James R. Shannon added his haunting lyrics, "MISSOURI WALTZ" had, through more than a quarter-century of state and national history, become synonymous with the deep-rooted lore of that proud midwestern state.

THE simple, bewitching lullaby already had entwined itself about the heart of Missouri, on which time had deeply etched immortal names from Marquette, Joliet, and LaSalle through Lewis and Clarke, to Mark Twain and General Omar Bradley; through such institutions as "Robin Hood" Jesse James and the Pony Express. At the same time, the nostalgic lullaby had touched the heart of all the land.

SO now, after 35 years of paralleling Missouri history — even creeping into national and international history — "MISSOURI WALTZ," still a popular music "best-seller," has taken its officially honored place beside the state's Gold Seal, Tricolor, Bluebird and Hawthorne.