

# Billy Strayhorn

Vol. 66

## Lush Life

*Satin Doll*  
*Take The "A" Train*  
*Blood Count*  
*Chelsea Bridge*  
*Drawing Room Blues*  
*Isfahan*  
*Johnny Come Lately*  
*Little Brown Book*  
*Lush Life*  
*Raincheck*  
*UMMG*  
*A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing*



Book & CD Set





by Jamey Aebersold Jazz

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## INTRODUCTION

If there ever was a man who was underrated and publicly underappreciated, it was Billy Strayhorn. He was classically trained but came under Duke Ellington's spell as a teenager when he first heard the band. Several years later, in 1938, he approached Ellington about a job, playing several pieces for him that he'd written for a high school band including *Lush Life*. Ellington took him on as a lyricist, but soon Strayhorn was demonstrating a level of composition and arranging talent that even he himself had been unaware of. He became a virtual alter ego to Ellington, even occasionally playing piano with the band. They worked together with a rapport verging on the telepathic until Strayhorn's death in 1967.

Of the three collaborations with Ellington on this record, *Drawing Room Blues* is the least formal, recorded by the composers as a piano duet in 1946. *Satin Doll* is a four-square 32-bar song that has been a jazz staple since the Ellington band recorded it in 1953; Johnny Mercer's outrageously hip lyric was added in 1958. And *Isfahan*, named for the Persian city (now in Iran), is the most formal of the three, written in 1966 as part of the "Far East Suite" to feature altoist Johnny Hodges. *Lush Life* took a long time to catch on. There is only one documented performance of it by the Ellington orchestra, and that was a Carnegie Hall rendering in 1948 (a decade after Ellington first heard the piece) by the band with Strayhorn at the piano and Kay Davis singing. But Nat King Cole's 1949 hit with Pete Rugelo's arrangement established the song as a standard. In stark contrast was *Take The A Train's* immediate success following its 1941 debut. The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), to which Ellington belonged, was at war with radio broadcasters, and effective January 1, 1941, ASCAP songs could not be broadcast. Strayhorn recalled in a 1966 interview, "When we (the Ellington band) opened at the Casa Manana on January 3rd, we had air time every night but could not play our library. We had to play non-ASCAP material. Duke was in ASCAP, but I wasn't. So we had to write a new library, and *A Train* was one of the numbers."

The lyrics, incidentally, were Strayhorn's attempt to straighten out confused subway users about where the A Train (part of the 6th Avenue subway in New York) went. By the time the ASCAP Radio dispute was settled, *Take The A Train* was the band's new theme song.

Strayhorn's other titles were often more obscure in origin. *Chelsea Bridge* was inspired by a Whistler painting of a bridge across the Thames River in England; later, Strayhorn discovered that the painting was actually of the Battersea Bridge! *Raincheck*, an overtly happy little tune, was "...about rain, about being in California in January, February, March...it was raining, and I was sitting at home in Los Angeles and writing..." *Johnny Come Lately*, a riff tune with some unusual melodic leaps, and *My Little Brown Book* also stem from the early forties. *A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing* was first recorded in 1949 on a Johnny Hodges small group date; other artists were slow to discover it, but today a number of recordings are in print. Toward the end of his life Strayhorn's failing health found musical expression; *Upper Manhattan Medical Group (UMMG)* is an obvious tribute, composed in the late fifties; and *Blood Count*, Strayhorn's last masterpiece, is a revision of a song he wrote in the forties and gave a much less ominous title: "Anal Renrut" (Lana Turner spelled backwards). Billy Strayhorn himself was content to remain in the background, modesty and self-effacement being as central to his personality as gregariousness and grand gestures were to Ellington's. Strayhorn preferred to let his music speak for itself. I would like to thank Ellingtonia expert Charlie Plank for his input in preparing these notes. Also helpful were these books: "The World of Duke Ellington" by Stanley Dance (Schribners, 1970), which includes the 1966 Strayhorn interview; "Duke: A Portrait of Duke Ellington" by Derek Jewell (Norton, 1977); "Beyond Category: The Life and Genius of Duke Ellington" by Edward Hasse (Simon & Schuster, 1993).

Phil Bailey, 9/10/95

## DISCOGRAPHY

**DISCOGRAPHY NOTE:** All numbers refer to CDs presumed to be available in the United States at presstime. "\*" indicates probable first recording. BB=Big Band.

**NOTE:** Several artists have recorded albums devoted to Strayhorn compositions. Notable among those currently available are the ones by Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2) and Strayhorn himself (Red Baron AK 52760). Both albums are titled "Lush Life." Nine out of ten tracks on the Henderson album are tunes on this album as well; the Strayhorn CD has four in common. Of special interest is Duke Ellington's album "And His Mother Called Him Bill" (RCABluebird 6287-2-RB) which has four tracks in common with this album. Also not to be overlooked is Art Farmer's album "Something To Live For" (Contemporary CCD-14029-2), an all-Strayhorn album including five tunes on this album.

### Blood Count (1967)

Hersch Bullen (Night Life CDNL-3612)  
 Duke Ellington BB (Hodges feat.)(Pablo 3PACD-2625-704-2)(\*RCA Bluebird 6287-2-RB; 66084-2)  
 Art Farmer (Contemporary CCD-14029-2)  
 Stan Getz (Concord CCD-4188)(Cazell GJCD 1013)(Polydor 838769-2; Verve 314-515-391-2)  
 Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2)  
 Hank Jones/Dave Holland/Billy Higgins (Emarcy 846 376-2)  
 Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4272)  
 Mark Murphy (Muse MCD-5359)  
 Shorty Rogers/Bud Shank (Concord CCD-4273)  
 Bobby Watson (Blue Note B2-90362)

### Chelsea Bridge (1942)

Pepper Adams (Muse MCD-5213)  
 Gerry Beaudoin & the Boston Jazz Ens. (North Star NS0049)  
 Kenny Burrell (Fantasy FCD-79005-2)  
 Duke Ellington (\*RCA Bluebird 5659-2-RB; 61071-2)(Vintage Jazz Classics VJC-1003-2)  
 Ella Fitzgerald w. Ellington BB (wordless vel)(Verve 837 035-2)  
 Tommy Flanagan (Pablo OJCCD-737-2)  
 Dizzy Gillespie (Dwike Mitchell feat.)(Mainstream JK-57149)  
 Vince Guaraldi Trio (Fantasy OJCCD-149-2)  
 Scott Hamilton (Concord CCD-4492)  
 Joe Henderson (Milestone OJCCD-465-2)  
 Vincent Herring (Musicmasters 65092-2)  
 John Hicks/McBee/Jones (RCA Novus 3115-2-N)  
 John Hicks/Elise Wood, Inc. (Evidence ECD-22033)

Buck Hill (Muse MCD-5384)  
 Bobby Hutcherson (Landmark LCD-1517-2)  
 Ahmad Jamal (Telarc CD-83339)  
 Joe Lovano w. Gunther Schuller (Blue Note B2-29269)  
 Adrian Mears/Johannes Enders Quintet (Enja ENJ-8022-2)  
 Gerry Mulligan/Ben Webster (Verve 841 661-2; 314 515 391-2; 314 521 737-2)  
 David Murray (Red Barron JK 57336)(Black Saint 120110-2)  
 Jimmy & Doug Raney (Jimmy's feat.)(Steeplechase SCCD-31118)  
 Buddy Rich BB (Jimmy Moshier feat.)(RCA 6459-2-RB)  
 Bobby Shew/Chuck Findley (Delos 4003)  
 Billy Strayhorn (Red Baron AK 52760)  
 Lew Tabackin (Concord CCD-4411)  
 Tom Talbert BB (Sea Breeze CDSB-2058)  
 Arthur Taylor's Wailers (Abraham Burton feat.)(Verve 314 519 677-2)  
 Tough Young Tenors (James Carter feat.)(Antilles 422 848 767-2)  
 Trilogy BB (Sea Breeze CDSB-2059)  
 29th St. Saxophone Quartet (Red Record 123 262-2)  
 Sarah Vaughan (Pablo PACD-2312-116-2)  
 Ben Webster (Verve 314 513 633-2)(Verve 314 527 475-2) (Verve 314 525 431-2)  
 Dick Whittington Trio (Concord CCD-4498)  
 Cassandra Wilson (JMT 834 443-2)

### Drawing Room Blues (1946)

Duke Ellington/Billy Strayhorn (duet)(Blue Note 7243 8 28647 2 4) (\*RCA Bluebird 2178-2-RB; 07863-66471-2)  
 Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2)

## **A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing (1949)**

Ray Anderson (Grammavision R2 79445)  
Dave Burrell (Denon DC-8550)  
Tony Campise (Heart Music 004 CD)  
Duke Ellington (Hindsight HBCD-501)  
Jerry Gonzalez (Milestone MCD-9242-2)  
Vince Guaraldi (Fantasy OJCCD-235-2)  
Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2)  
Johnny Hodges (Impulse GRD-116)(\*Prestige PRCD-24103-2)  
Lena Horne (Blue Note B2-28974)  
Steve Masakowski (Nebula NU-5010)  
Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4326)  
Ron Miles (Capri 74014-2)  
Frank Morgan (Antilles 422 848 213-2)  
Seldon Powell (Fresh Sound FSR-CD93)  
Billy Strayhorn (Ozzie Bailey, vcl)(Red Baron AK 52760)  
Warren Vache w. String Quartet (Concord CCD-4392)  
Carla White (Milestone MCD-9159-2)

## **Isfahan (1966)**

Duke Ellington (Hodges feat.)(Musicmasters 65106-2)(\*RCA Bluebird 07863-66551-2)(Saja 7 91044-2)  
Art Farmer (Contemporary CCD-14029-2)(Enja ENJ-7047-2)  
Roland Hanna (Musicmasters 5045-2-C)  
Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2)  
Fred Hess (Capri 74032-2)  
Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4326)  
Grover Mitchell (Ken KEN-005)  
Carol Sloane (Rowles lyric as My Leopard)(Audiophile ACD-211)  
Lew Tabackin (Concord CCD-4528)

## **Johnny Come Lately (1942)**

American Jazz Orchestra (Rhino 91423-2)  
Duke Ellington (Laserlight 15786)(\*RCA Bluebird 5659-2-RB)  
Duke Ellington/Billy Strayhorn (Riverside OJCCD-108-2)  
Art Farmer (Contemporary CCD-14029-2)  
Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2; 314-517-407-2; 314-521-737-2)  
Johnny Hodges/Wild Bill Davis (RCA Bluebird 66467-2)  
Newport Jazz Festival Allstars (Concord CCD-4401)  
Ken Peplowski (Concord CCD-4569)  
Lew Tabackin (Concord CCD-4411)  
Cecil Taylor (Verve 840 032-2)  
Wolverines BB (Projazz CDJ-618)

## **Lush Life (1938)**

Chet Baker (Mosaic MD3-122)  
Sathima Bea Benjamin (Enja ENJ-7015-2)  
Claude Bolling/Stephane Grappelli (Milan 35633-2)  
Joe Bonner (Evidence ECD-22024)  
Nick Brignola (Trend TRCD-549)  
Ray Bryant (Verve 314-515-391-2)  
Dave Burrell (Denon DC-8550)  
Kenny Burrell (Voss D2-72930)  
Jaki Byard (Prestige OJCCD-1842-2)  
Ann Hampton Calloway (DRG 91411)  
Tony Campise (Heart Music 006 CD)  
Conte Candoli w. Christlieb (Best BR-92101)  
Nat. King Cole (Blue Note B2-80595)(Capitol C2-99230)  
Natalie Cole (Elektra 61049-2)  
George Coleman Quartet (Verve 314-511-922-2)  
John Coltrane (Prestige OJCCD-131-2; 16PCD-4405-2)  
John Coltrane/Johnny Hartman (Impulse GRD-107; MCAD-8026)  
Chris Connor (Evidence ECD-22110-2)  
Norman Connors (Mojazz 37463-7003-2)  
Chick Corea (alone)(GRP GRD-9774)  
Jesse Davis (Concord CCD-4512)  
Billy Eckstine (Roulette B2-98583)  
Duke Ellington BB (\*Vintage Jazz Classics VJC-1024/25-2)  
Eileen Farrell (Reference Recordings RR-46-CD; RR-60-CD)  
Maynard Ferguson (Rhino R2 71704)  
Ella Fitzgerald (Verve 837 035-2; 314-517-898-2; 314-523-382-2)  
Ella Fitzgerald/Joe Pass (duo)(Pablo PACD-2310-702-2)  
Johnny Frigo (Chesky JD-119)  
Bruce Gates Jazz Consortium BB (Sea Breeze CDSB-2060)

Stan Getz (Columbia CK-48948)(Sceptechase SCCD-31073/4)  
Gabrielle Goodman (JMT 314-514-015-2)  
Great Jazz Trio (Denon DC-8564; DC-8575)  
Jerry Hadley (RCA 09026-61937-2)  
Sir Roland Hanna (Concord CCD-4604)  
Johnny Hartman (see John Coltrane/Johnny Hartman)  
(Impulse GRD-9748)  
Jimmy Heath (Landmark LCD-1506-2)  
Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2; 314-517-407-2; 314-521-004-2; 314-521-485-2)  
Bill Holman BB (Candoli feat.)(Creative World LP ST-1053)(LP only)  
John Holmquist/Dan Estrem (Projazz CDJ-628)  
Dick Hyman (alone)(Music & Arts CD-622)  
Henry Johnson (Heads Up HUUCD-3019)  
Clifford Jordan (Riverside OJCCD-766-2)  
Bobby Lyle (Atlantic 81938-2)  
Steve Masakowski (Blue Note B2-31108)  
Bill Mays (Concord CCD-4567)  
Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4326)  
Carmen McRae (Pair PCD-2-1182)  
Mark Murphy (MCD-6001)  
New York Saxophone Quartet (Stash ST-CD-9)  
Phineas Newborn (Contemporary OJCCD-175-2)  
Nicole (Cexton CR-6239-D)  
Walter Norris Trio (Concord CCD-4457)  
Joe Pass (Pablo 2PACD-2640-102-2)  
Michel Petrucciani (Blue Note B2-80590)  
Bud Powell Trio (RCA Bluebird 51423-2)  
Tito Puente/George Shearing (Puente vibes feat.)(Concord Picante CCD-4283)  
Buddy Rich BB (Hopkins feat.)(LRC CDC 8511)  
Buddy Rich BB (Stepton feat.)(RCA 01241-63147-2)  
Linda Ronstadt/Nelson Riddle (Asylum 6038702; Elektra 60489-2)  
Archie Shepp (Freedom FCD-741027)  
Billy Strayhorn (piano & vcl alone)(Red Baron AK-52760; AK-53821)  
Billy Taylor w. Gerry Mulligan (GRP GRD-9692)  
Lilian Terry/Tommy Flanagan (Soul Note 121 047-2)  
Gary Thomas w. Pat Metheny (JMT 314-514-000-2)  
Bobby Timmons (Riverside OJCCD-104-2)  
McCoy Tyner (Blue Note B2-93598)(Milestone MCD-55003-2)  
Sarah Vaughan (Pablo PACD-2405-416-2; PACD-2312-111-2)  
(Verve 830 699-2; 826 320-2)  
Frank Wess et al (Concord CCD-4452)  
Mike Westbrook Trio (Hat Art CD-6061)

## **My Little Brown Book (1942)**

Kenny Burrell (Fantasy FCD-79005)  
John Coltrane (w. Duke Ellington)(Impulse GRD-107)  
Duke Ellington (Jeffries vcl)(\*RCA Bluebird 5659-2)  
Duke Ellington (RCA Bluebird 6287-2)  
Duke Ellington/John Coltrane(same master as above)(Impulse/MCAD-39103)  
Al Hibbler (Chess CHD-9327)  
Buddy Montgomery (Landmark LCD-1518-2)

## **Rain Check (1941)**

Art Blakey (Timeless CD SJP 340)  
Nick Brignola (Reservoir RSR CD 108)  
James Clay (Antilles 422-848-279-2)  
Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orch. (Capri 74021-2)  
Duke Ellington BB (\*RCA 5659-2-RB)(RCA 6287-2-RB)(Vintage Jazz Classics VJC-1003-2)  
Art Farmer (Contemporary CCD-14029-2)  
Tommy Flanagan (Alfa/Compose 7102-2)  
Joe Henderson (Verve 314-511-779-2)  
Poll Winners (Barney Kessel feat.)(Contemporary OJCCD-692-2)  
Billy Strayhorn (Red Baron AK 52760)

## **Satin Doll (1953)**

Lorez Alexandria (Impulse MCAD-33116)  
Gene Ammons (Prestige PCD-24071-2)  
Ernestine Anderson (Concord CCD-4109)  
Peter Appleyard (Concord CCD-4436)  
Billy Bang/Sun Ra (Soul Note 121216-2)



# 1. Take The "A" Train

PLAY 5 CHORUSES in C  
PLAY 5 CHORUSES in E $\flat$   
( $\text{♩} = 176$ )

Words and Music by  
Billy Strayhorn

**INTRO**

Bass pedal G -----

**MELODY**

C $\Delta$  D7+4 D-

You \_\_\_\_\_ must take the "A" Train, \_\_\_\_\_ To  
If \_\_\_\_\_ you miss the "A" Train, \_\_\_\_\_ You'll

G7 1. C $\Delta$  A7 D- G7 2. C $\Delta$  G- C7

go to Sug - ar Hill way up in Har - lem. \_\_\_\_\_  
find you've missed the quick - est way to Har - lem. \_\_\_\_\_

**BRIDGE**

F $\Delta$  F $\Delta$  D7

Hur - ry \_\_\_\_\_ get on now it's com - ing. \_\_\_\_\_ Lis - ten \_\_\_\_\_

D- G7 $\flat 9$  C $\Delta$

to those rails a - thrum - ming. \_\_\_\_\_ All 'board! \_\_\_\_\_ Get on the

D7+4 D- G7 C $\Delta$  D- G7

"A" Train \_\_\_\_\_ Soon you will be on Su - gar Hill in Har - lem. \_\_\_\_\_

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# 1. Take The "A" Train-Cont.



## SOLOS

CA	D7+4	D-	G7	1. E- A7 D- G7	2. CA G- C7
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## BRIDGE

FΔ D7

D- D- G7 CA D7+4

D- G7 Use this ending for the first 4 choruses  
CA A7 D- G7

After 5th Chorus take this ending to the new key of Eb. See chord progression below.  
C7 B7 Bb7

Play 5 Choruses in key of Eb.

EbΔ F7+4 F- Bb7 1.  
EbΔ C7 F- Bb7 2.  
EbΔ Bb- Eb7

AbΔ F7 F- F- Bb7

EbΔ F7+4 F- Bb7 EbΔ C7 F- Bb7 ⊕

⊕ C7+9 F- Bb7 EbΔ C7+9 F- Bb7 EbΔ ⊕ EbΔ



# 2. UMMG

(UPPER MANHATTAN MEDICAL GROUP)

PLAY 8 CHORUSES

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 208)

FØ Bb7b9 Eb- Ab7 DbØ7 DbΔ

1. DbΔ 3 Db- Gb7b9 2. DbΔ 3 Ab-

Db7 GØ C7b9 FΔ AbØ

Db7b9 Gb- Ab7 FØ Bb7b9 Eb-

Ab7 DbØ7/C DbΔ DbØ7/C DbΔ

## SOLOS

FØ Bb7b9 Eb- Ab7 DbØ7 DbΔ 1. DbΔ Db- Gb7b9 2. DbΔ

## BRIDGE

Ab- Db7 GØ C7b9 FΔ AbØ Db7b9 Gb- Ab7

FØ Bb7b9 Eb- Ab7 DbØ7/C DbΔ ⊕ DbØ7/C DbΔ

## LATIN

⊕ DbØ7/C DbΔ DbΔ

# 3. Chelsea Bridge



PLAY 3 CHORUSES

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 56)

3 Eb7+4 Db7+4 Eb7+4 Db7+4 Bb7+4

Eb- Ab7b9 DbΔ

1.	Db C7 B7 Bb7	3
2.	DbΔ B7	

BRIDGE F#- B7 EA 3 G°7 F#- B7 B- E7+9

AA A- D7 GA G- Db7 C7 B7 Bb7 3

Eb7+4 Db7+4 Eb7+4 Db7+4 Bb7+4 Eb- Ab7b9 DbΔ GbΔ F- Bb7

## SOLOS

Eb7+4 Db7+4 Eb7+4 Db7+4 Bb7+4 Eb- Ab7b9 DbΔ

1.	Db C7 B7 Bb7	2.	DbΔ B7 F#- B7 EA G°7 F#- B7 B- E7+9
----	--------------	----	-------------------------------------

AA A- D7 GA G- Db7 C7 B7 Bb7 Eb7+4 Db7+4

Eb7+4 Db7+4 Bb7+4 ⊕ Eb- Ab7b9 DbΔ GbΔ F- Bb7

⊕ Eb- Ab7b9 DbΔ+4





# 4. Satin Doll

PLAY 5 CHORUSES

(♩ = 112)

Music by Duke Ellington

Lyrics by Billy Strayhorn and Johnny Mercer

D- G7 D- G7 E- A7

Cig - a - rette hold - er — which wigs me o - ver her should - er, —  
 Ba - by shall we go — out skip - pin' care - ful a - mi - go, —

E- A7 A0/Eb D7 Ab- Db7

she digs me — Out cat - tin' — that Sat - in Doll. —  
 your flip - pin' — Speaks Lat - in — that Sat - in Doll. —

1. CΔ FA E- A7	2. CΔ CA
-------------------	-------------

She's

## BRIDGE

G- C7 G- C7 FA

no - bod - y's fool, so I'm play - ing it cool as can be, — I'll

A- D7 A- D7 G7

*Spoken: Swich-E-Roo-ney*

give it a whirl, — but I ain't for no girl — catch - ing me. — BREAK

D- G7 D- G7 E- A7

Tel - e - phone num - bers — well you know, — do - ing my rhum - bas —

E- A7 A0/Eb D7 Ab- Db7 CΔ FA E- A7

with u - no, — And that 'n' — my Sat - in Doll. —

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# 4. Satin Doll-Cont.



## SOLOS

D-                      G7                      E-                      A7                      A-                      D7

Ab-    Db7    1. CA    FA    E-    A7    2. CA

## BRIDGE

G-                      C7                      FA                      A-                      D7

G7                      E-                      A7                      D-                      G7                      E-

A7                      ⊕ A-                      D7                      Ab-                      Db7                      CA                      FA                      E-                      A7

⊕  
A0/Eb D7    Ab-    Db7    CA    B7    Bb7    A7<sup>b9</sup><sub>+4</sub>    A0/Eb D7    Ab-    Db7

CA    B7    Bb7    A7<sup>b9</sup><sub>+4</sub>    A0/Eb D7    Ab-    Db7    CA                      CA+4



# 5. Lush Life

PLAY 1 VERSE and 2 CHORUSES

Words and Music by  
Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 66)

VERSE **A<sup>b</sup>7<sup>b</sup>9** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **B7** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **B7**

I used to vis - it all the ver - y gay pla - ces, - Those come what  
(The) girls I knew had sad and sul - len gray fa - ces - With dis - tin -

**D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **B7** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **E<sup>b</sup>-** **EΔ** **F<sup>#</sup>-** **A<sup>b</sup>-** **A7**

may pla - ces, - Where one re - lax - es on the ax - is of the wheel of life - to get the  
que tra - ces, - That used to be there you could see where they'd been

**E<sup>b</sup>-** **D7** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **D7** | 2. **A<sup>b</sup>-** **A7** **3**

feel of life, - from jazz and cock-tails. The washed a - way, - by too man - y

**E<sup>b</sup>-** **D7** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **C7+9** **F-** **F-6** **F-7** **F-6**

thru the day twelve o' clocktales. Then you came a-long with your si-ren song to

**F-** **3** **G-** **G<sup>b</sup>7** **F-** **F-6** **F-7** **F-6**

tempt me to mad - ness, - I thought for a while that your poig-nant smile was

**F-** **3** **E<sup>o</sup>7** **E<sup>b</sup>-** **3** **A<sup>b</sup>7** **B7+4** **B<sup>b</sup>7<sup>b</sup>9** **E<sup>b</sup>7+4**

tinged with the sad - ness of a great love for me. - Ah! yes I was wrong,

**A7+4** **E<sup>b</sup>-** **A<sup>b</sup>7** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **D7+4** **D<sup>b</sup>Δ** **D7+4**

a - gain I was wrong. - Life is lone - ly a - gain and on - ly last

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# 5. Lush Life-Cont.

Db6 C7+4 B7 EA EbΔ DA D7 DbΔ D7+4 DbΔ D7+4

(b) year ev-'ry-thing seemed so sure. Now life is aw-ful a - gain a trough-ful of

Db6 Db7 C7 FA E7 Eb7 AbΔ Eb7+9 AbΔ E- A7

(b) hearts could on-ly be a bore. A week in Pa-ris will ease the bite of it,

DA D- C B7 Bb7 A7 Ab7 DbΔ D7 DbΔ D7

All I care is to smile in spite of it. I'll for-get you I will while yet you are

Db6 C7 B7 Bb7 Eb- F#- B7

(b) still burn-ing in-side my brain. Ro - mance is mush, sti - fling

A7+5 Ab7b9 DbΔ Db- Gb7 BA FØ Bb7+9

those who strive,- I'll live a lush life in some small dive,- And

Eb- F#- B7 A7+5 Ab7 EA EbΔ DA Bb7+9 Eb- D7+9 DbΔ

there I'll be, while I rot with the rest of those whose lives are lone-ly too.

## CHORUS [Chorus is played 2 times]

DbΔ D7+4 DbΔ D7+4 Db6 C7+4 B7 EA EbΔ DA D7 DbΔ D7+4 DbΔ D7+4

Db6 Db7 C7 FA E7 Eb7 AbΔ Eb7+9 AbΔ E- A7 DA D- C B7 Bb7 A7 Ab7

DbΔ D7 DbΔ D7 Db6 C7 B7 Bb7 Eb- F#- B7 A7+5 Ab7b9 DbΔ Db- Gb7

BA FØ Bb7+9 Eb- F#- B7 A7+5 Ab7 EA EbΔ DA Bb7+9 Eb- D7+9 DbΔ

*ritard for ending . . . . .*



# 6. Isfahan

PLAY 5 CHORUSES

(♩ = 112)

Duke Ellington  
and Billy Strayhorn

Musical score for the first five choruses of "Isfahan". The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab). It features a melody line with triplets and various chord voicings. The first chorus is marked with a box 'A' and the second with a box 'B'. The score includes two 'BREAK' sections indicated by dashed lines.

Chord progressions for the first five choruses:

- Chorus 1: DbΔ, BbΔ Bb7+5, Eb7, Eb7, AΔ
- Chorus 2: Ab7b9, Ab7, DbΔ, DbΔ, GØ, C7b9, F-6, AØ, D7b9
- Chorus 3: G-6, GØ, C7+9, FΔ, EΔ, EbΔ, DΔ, DbΔ, BbΔ, Bb7b9
- Chorus 4: Eb7, Eb7, AΔ, Ab7+9, Db7+4, Db7+4, GbΔ
- Chorus 5: C7+9, F7+9, Bb7, Eb7, Ab7b9, DbΔ, DbΔ

## SOLOS

Solo section consisting of six staves of empty musical notation with chord progressions written above them. The chords are:

- Staff 1: DbΔ, BbΔ Bb7+9, Eb7, Eb7, AΔ, Ab7b9, Ab7, DbΔ, DbΔ
- Staff 2: GØ, C7b9, F-6, AØ, D7b9, G-6, GØ, C7+9, FΔ, EΔ, EbΔ, DΔ
- Staff 3: DbΔ, BbΔ Bb7+9, Eb7, Eb7, AΔ, Ab7+9, Db7+4, Db7+4
- Staff 4: GbΔ, C7+9, F7+9, Bb7, Eb7, Ab7b9, DbΔ, ⊕ DbΔ
- Staff 5: ⊕ DbΔ, Eb7, Ab7+9, DbΔ, DbΔ, DbΔ

# 7. Drawing Room Blues



PLAY 1 CHORUS

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 116)

CΔ    A-    D-    G7    C6    B7

Bb7    Eb7    Ab7    F7+9    BbΔ    A7+9

D-    A7    D-    G7    ⊕    CΔ    G7

(C#°7)

⊕

C7

This song never had a actual melody. What we have presented here are the chords that Billy Strayhorn and Duke Ellington would play over. They played this as a piano duet.



# 8. Rain Check

PLAY 8 CHORUSES

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 208)

INTRO (Drums) 8

FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- G-C7

FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- G- C7

1. FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- B- E7 AΔ F#7

B- E7 Eb7 D7 Db7 C7

2. FA C- F7 BbΔ D7+9

Db7 C7 FA G- Ab7 F/A G- C7 F

## SOLOS

FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- G- C7 FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- G- C7

1. FA G- Ab7 F/A BbΔ A- B- E7 AΔ F#7 B- E7 Eb7 D7 Db7 C7

2. FA C- F7 BbΔ D7+9 Db7 C7 FA G- Ab7 F/A G- C7 F

⊕

G- C7 F

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# 9. Johnny Come Lately



PLAY 9 CHORUSES

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 208)

Chorus 1: G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G-

Chorus 2: Eb7 D7+9 1. G- Eb7 D7+9 2. G- F- Bb7

BRIDGE

Bridge 1: EbΔ F- G- F- EbΔ F- G- F- EbΔ F- G- C7

Bridge 2: F- Bb7 A7b9 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G-

Bridge 3: Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9

(BREAK TO SOLOS)

SOLOS

Solo 1: G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 1. G- Eb7 D7+9

Solo 2: G- F- Bb7 EbΔ F- G- F- EbΔ F- G- F- EbΔ F- G- C7 F- Bb7

Solo 3: A7b9 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9 G- Eb7 D7+9

Solo 4: G- G-/F Eb7 D7 C7+4

Fine

Play 3 times & end on C7+4

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# 10. A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing

PLAY 2 CHORUSES

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 56)



A flow-er is a love-some thing,— A lus-cious liv-ing love-some thing.—  
 flow-er is the heart of spring,— That makes the roll-ing hill-side sing.—



— A daf-fo-dil a rose No mat-ter where it grows Is  
 — The gen-tle winds that blow, Blow gent-ly for they know A



such a love-ly love-some thing.— A  
 flow-er is a love-some thing.—



Play-ing in the breeze, Sway-ing with the trees.



In the si-lent night Or in the morn-ing light Such a mir-a-cle—



A - za - leas drink - ing pale moon - beams,— Gar-

# 10. A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing-Cont.



B7+4 Bb7 Eb7

den - ias float - ing thru day - dreams\_ Where - ev - er it may grow No

Ab7 Db7 AA Eb7 DA Db

mat - ter where you go A flow - er is a love - some thing.

## SOLOS

B7+4 B7+4 Bb7 Eb7 Ab7 Db7

F#- Eb7 DA 1. DbΔ 2. DbΔ Eb- Ab7 DbΔ

E- A7+9 DA DA DbΔ DA B- Bb7+5 Eb7

GbΔ Ab7b9 B7+4 B7+4

Bb7 Eb7 Ab7 Db7 AA Eb7 DA Db

*ritard. on 2nd chorus . . . fine*



# 11. My Little Brown Book

PLAY 2 CHORUSES

(♩ = 69)

Words and Music by

Billy Strayhorn

B♭Δ F7+5 F- B♭7 E♭Δ E♭- A♭7

My lit-tle brown book, With the sil-ver bind-ing How it keeps re-  
nook, I go thru its pa-ges And per-use this

B♭Δ B♭Δ+5 C- F7 1. D- D♭7 C- F7

mind-ing me of a mem-o-ry that's haunt-ing me. In some qui-et  
age-less tale of a love that failed to

2. B♭Δ D♭7 G♭Δ A♭7 BRIDGE D♭Δ D°7

ev-er be-come true. On this page is the date of that

E♭- A♭7 D♭Δ E°7 E♭- A♭7

fate-ful night at eight when I found you were no long-er in love; Af-ter

D♭Δ D°7 E♭- A♭7 D♭Δ GØ

that there's noth-ing more just a dark and fu-tile door that shuts out the stars a-

C7 C7+5 F7 F7+5 B♭Δ F7+5 F- B♭7

bove. In my lit-tle book, I in-scribed your

# 11. My Little Brown Book-Cont.



$E_b\Delta$        $E_b-$        $A_b7$        $B_b\Delta$        $B_b\Delta+5$        $C-$   $G_b7$   $F7$

heart vow. — But since we're a - part now this and that last sweet kiss is

$B_b\Delta$        $D_b-$   $G_b7$        $B\Delta$        $C-$        $B7+4$        $B_b\Delta$   $C-$   $F7$

all that's left of you is all that's left of you.

## SOLOS

$B_b\Delta$        $F7+5$        $F-$        $B_b7$        $E_b\Delta$        $E_b-$        $A_b7$        $B_b\Delta$        $B_b\Delta+5$        $C-$        $F7$

1.	$D-$ $D_b7$ $C-$ $F7$	2.	$B_b\Delta$ $D_b7$ $G_b\Delta$ $A_b7$ $D_b\Delta$ $D\circ7$ $E_b-$ $A_b7$
----	-----------------------	----	---

## BRIDGE

$D_b\Delta$        $E\circ7$        $E_b-$        $A_b7$        $D_b\Delta$        $D\circ7$        $E_b-$        $A_b7$        $D_b\Delta$        $G\emptyset$        $C7$        $C7+5$        $F7$        $F7+5$

$B_b\Delta$        $F7+5$        $F-$        $B_b7$        $E_b\Delta$        $E_b-$        $A_b7$        $B_b\Delta$        $B_b\Delta+5$

$C-$        $G_b7$        $F7$        $B_b\Delta$        $D_b-$        $G_b7$        $B\Delta$        $\oplus$   $C-$        $B7+4$        $B_b\Delta$        $C-$        $F7$

$\oplus$   $C-$        $B7+4$        $B_b\Delta$



# 12. Blood Count



PLAY 1 CHORUS

Music by Billy Strayhorn

(♩ = 56)

NOTE: This song is only played one chorus.

F7+9                      B♭7+9                      E♭7+9                      B♭-    A7

D-6                      D-(+5)                      D-6                      A7+4    D7

F7+9                      B♭7+9                      E♭7+9                      B♭-    A7    DΔ

D(+5)                      D6                      D7                      G6

G-6                      FΔ                      E7                      A7    B♭7    B7    C7

F7+9                      B♭7+9                      E♭7+9                      B♭-    A7    DΔ

D(+5)                      D6                      D7



# 12. Blood Count-Cont.

GA C7 DA

E7 F Triad E Triad Eb Triad D-Triad F Triad

A pedal -----

E Triad Eb Triad D- F Triad E Triad Eb Triad D-

## SOLOS

F7+9 Bb7+9 Eb7+9 Bb- A7 D-6 D-(+5)

D-6 A7+4 D7 F7+9 Bb7+9 Eb7+9 Bb- A7

DA D(+5) D6 D7 G6

G-6 FA E7 A7 Bb7 B7 C7

F7+9 Bb7+9 Eb7+9 Bb- A7 DA

D(+5) D6 D7 GA C7

DA E7 F Triad E Triad Eb Triad D-Triad F Triad

A pedal -----

E Triad Eb Triad D- F Triad E Triad Eb Triad D-

Charlie Barnet BB (Mobile Fidelity MFCD-841)  
 Count Basie BB (Pablo PACD-2312-131-2)  
 Ray Bryant (Pablo OJCCD-371-2)  
 Kenny Burrell (Fantasy FCD-79008-2)  
 Duke Ellington (\*Blue Note B2-31501)(Columbia CK57901;CK 53822)  
 (Pablo 3PACD-2625-704-2)(Saja 91041-2)(many others)  
 Ella Fitzgerald (wordless vcl)(Verve 837 035-2)  
 Bud Freeman (Black Lion BLCD-3702)  
 Red Garland (Prestige PRCD-24132)(Prestige OJCCD-769-2)  
 Paul Gonsalves/Roy Eldridge (Fantasy OJCCD-751-2)  
 Stephane Grappelli (Black Lion BLCD-760139)(Vanguard 73130-2)  
 Stephane Grappelli/McCoy Tyner (Milestone MCD-9181-2)  
 Great Jazz Trio (Denon DC-8564; DC-8575)  
 Dave Grusin (GRP GRD-9715)  
 Johnny Guarnieri (SRL SLCD-9003)  
 Jimmy Hamilton (World Wide Jazz CD-21029)  
 Lafayette Harris Jr.(Muse MCD 5507)  
 Coleman Hawkins/Roy Eldridge/Johnny Hodges (Verve 314-513-755-2)  
 Earl Hines (Chiaroscuro CRD-157)  
 Johnny Hodges (Pablo PACD-2620-102-2)  
 John Holmquist/Dan Estrem (Projazz CDJ-628)  
 JJ Johnson (Columbia CK 44443)  
 Hank Jones (Jazz Alliance AAJ-11003)  
 Jo Jones (Vanguard 101/2-2)  
 Peggy Lee/George Shearing (Blue Note B2-98454)  
 Jay McShann (Black Lion BLCD-760187)  
 Wes Montgomery Trio (Riverside OJCCD-034-2; 12RCD-4408-2)  
 Peter Nero Trio (Concord CCD-4048)  
 Joe Pass (Pablo PACD-2405-419-2; PACD-2310-716-2)  
 Oscar Peterson (Pablo 2PACD-2620-111-2)  
 Oscar Peterson/Trumpet Kings (w. Edison)(Pablo PACD-2310-817-2)  
 Oscar Peterson/Clark Terry (Pablo OJCCD-802-2)  
 Michel Petrucciani (Blue Note B2-80590)  
 Poll Winners (Kessel/Brown/Manne)(Contemporary OJCCD-156-2)  
 Andre Previn et al (Telarc CD-83309)  
 Dewey Redman (Evidence ECD-22093-2)  
 Tony Scott (Verve 845 145-2)  
 Archie Shepp (Denon DC-8547)  
 Jimmy Smith (Verve 825 675-2)  
 Ira Sullivan (Stash ST-CD-9; ST-CD-533)  
 Lonnie Liston Smith (Dr. Jazz AK-40612)  
 McCoy Tyner (Denon CY-1128)(Impulse MCAD-42000; MCAD-33124)  
 Ben Webster/Bill Coleman (Black Lion BLCD-760141)  
 Chris White Project (Muse MCD-5494)  
 Nancy Wilson (Blue Note B2-96265)  
 Teddy Wilson (Black Lion BLCD-760184)

## **Take The A Train (1941)**

American Jazz Orchestra (Rhino 91423-2)  
 Ernestine Anderson (Concord CCD-4054)  
 Peter Appleyard (Concord CCD-4436)  
 Charlie Barnet (Evidence ECD-22112-2)  
 Ran Blake (Soul Note 121 027-2)  
 Ruby Braff/Buddy Tate (Black Lion BLCD-760138; BLCD-3702)  
 Dollar Brand (Black Lion BLCD-760127)  
 Clarence Gatemouth Brown (Rounder CD-2054)  
 Clifford Brown/Max Roach Quintet (Emarcy 814 646-2; 838 306-2)  
 Ray Brown/Gene Harris Trio (Concord CCD-4268)  
 Dave Brubeck Quartet (Columbia CK 45149)(Columbia CK 44215)  
 Dave Brubeck Quartet w. Orch. (Musicmasters 5051-2-C)  
 Ray Bryant (Pablo OJCCD-371-2)  
 Kenny Burrell (Fantasy FCD-79005-2)(Fantasy FCD-79008-2)  
 (Muse MCD 5435)  
 Capp/Pierce Juggernaut BB (Concord CCD-4040)  
 James Carter Quartet (DIW/Columbia CK 67058)  
 Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orch. (Capri 74028-2)  
 Teddy Edwards Quartet (Contemporary OJCCD-748-2)  
 Roy Eldridge et al (Pablo PACD-2310-816-2)  
 Duke Ellington BB (\*RCA Bluebird 5659-2-RB; 61109-2; 3017-2-N)  
 (Musicmasters 65106-2)(Roulette B2-28637)(many others)  
 Maynard Ferguson (Avenue R2-71705)  
 Ella Fitzgerald (Verve 837 035-2; 314-527-233-2)(Verve 833 294-2)  
 (Verve 837 758-2)  
 Tommy Flanagan (Pablo OJCCD-737-2)  
 Laszlo Gardony (Sunnyside SSC 1062D)  
 Dizzy Gillespie (Ella Fitzgerald feat.)(Verve 314-513-875-2)

Dizzy Gillespie/Mitchell-Ruff Duo (Dwike Mitchell feat.)(Mainstream  
 JK 57149)  
 Dexter Gordon (Black Lion BLCD-760133)  
 Great Jazz Trio (Denon DC-8564; DC-8575)  
 Al Grey/Jimmy Forrest (Stash ST-CD-552)  
 Dave Grusin (GRP GRD-9715)  
 Johnny Guarnieri (SRL SLCD-9003)  
 H.M.A. Salsa/Jazz Orch. (Sea Breeze CDSB-110)  
 Lionel Hampton (Musicmasters 5011-2-C)(Telarc CD-83321)  
 Jake Hanna/Carl Fontana (Concord CCD-6011)  
 Roland Hanna (Freedom FCD-741010)  
 Gene Harris Quartet (Concord CCD-4578)  
 Coleman Hawkins & Friends (Pablo PACD-2310-933-2)  
 Joe Henderson (Red Record RR-123248)(Verve 314-511-779-2)  
 Jon Hendricks & Friends (Judith Hendricks vcl)(Denon CY-76302)  
 Johnny Hodges (Pablo 2PACD-2620-102-2)  
 John Holmquist/Dan Estrem (Projazz CDJ-628)  
 Milt Jackson (Ray Brown feat.)(Pablo PACD-2310-944-2)  
 Milt Jackson w. Brown, Roker (Pablo OJCCD-450-2)  
 Illinois Jacquet (Black Lion BLCD-760160)  
 Jazz At Lincoln Center (Columbia CK 66379)  
 Eddie Jefferson (Riverside OJCCD-307-2)  
 Louis Jordan (Evidence ECD-26006)  
 Roger Kellaway/Red Mitchell (duo)(Concord CCD-455)  
 King Sisters (Capitol C2-28106; C2-98014)  
 Kevin Mahogany (Enja ENJ-8072 2)  
 Shelly Manne (Impulse GRD-149)  
 Bobby McFerrin (Elektra 60366-2)  
 Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4326)  
 Don Menza Sextet (Voss D2-72931)  
 Glenn Miller BB (RCA Bluebird 66529-2)  
 Peter Nero (Concord CCD-4048)  
 Newport Jazz Festival Allstars (Concord CCD-4343)  
 Anita O'Day (Verve 837 939-2)  
 Pete Petersen BB (CMG CMD-8019)  
 Oscar Peterson (alone)(Verve 821 843-2; 314-513-830-2)  
 Michel Petrucciani (Blue Note B2-80590)  
 Andre Previn (Angel CDC-54917)(Black Lion BLCD-760189)  
 Quadrant (Pablo OJCCD-605-2)  
 Dewey Redman (Evidence ECD-22093-2)  
 Buddy Rich (World Wide Jazz CD-21006)  
 Tito Rodriguez (Polydor 314-521-071-2)  
 Jimmy & Stacy Rowles (Delos DE-4009)  
 Hilton Ruiz (Stash ST-CD-9)  
 Billy Strayhorn (Red Baron AK 52760)  
 Sun Ra (Hat Art CD-6099)  
 Clark Terry (Red Baron JK 53750)(Riverside OJCCD-229-2)  
 Clark Terry BB (Vanguard 79355-2)  
 Toots Thielemans (Denon DC-8563)  
 Mel Torme (Rhino R2-71507)(Verve 823 248-2; 840 029-2)  
 Sarah Vaughan (Verve 830 699-2; 814 587-2)  
 Joe Venuti/Dave McKenna (Chiaroscuro CRD-160)  
 Cedar Walton Quintet (Prestige OJCCD-462-2)  
 Gerry Wiggins (alone)(Concord CCD-4450)  
 Teddy Wilson (Black Lion BLCD-760115; BLCD-760184)  
 Wolverines BB (Pro Arte CDJ-643)

## **UMMG (Upper Manhattan Medical Group)**

Mike Abene (alone)(Stash ST-CD-9)  
 Charlie Barnet (Mobile Fidelity MFCD-841)  
 Alan Broadbent (alone)(Concord CCD-4488)  
 Kenny Burrell (Concord CCD-4121)  
 Chick Corea Akoustic Group (GRP GRD-9627)  
 Duke Ellington/Dizzy Gillespie (\*Columbia CK 40712)  
 Duke Ellington (Clark Terry feat.)(RCA Bluebird 6287-2-RB)  
 Art Farmer (Contemporary CCD-14029-2)(Concord CCD-4212)  
 Clare Fischer (Discovery DSCD-948)  
 Tommy Flanagan (Pablo PACD-2405-410-2; OJCCD-737-2)  
 Joe Henderson (Verve 314- 511-779-2)  
 John Hicks/Elise Wood (Evidence ECD-22033)  
 Steve Kuhn Trio (Concord CCD-4554)  
 Branford Marsalis Trio (Columbia CK 44199)  
 Marian McPartland (Concord CCD-4326)  
 Billy Strayhorn (Red Baron AK 52760)  
 Sumi Tonooka (Candid CCD-79516)