

## T for Texas



1. It's T for Texas,  
T for Tennessee,  
Well it's T for Texas,  
T for Tennessee  
And it's T for Thelma,  
That gal that made a wreck out of me.  
**Yodel**

O-de-lay-ee-a-lay-ee-o-lay-ee

2. If you don't want me mama  
You sure don't have to stall,  
If you don't want me mama  
You sure don't have to stall,  
'Cause I can get more women  
Than a passenger train can haul.  
**Yodel**

3. I'm gonna buy me a pistol  
Just as long as I'm tall, Lawd, Lawd,  
I'm gonna buy me a pistol  
Just as long as I'm tall,  
I'm gonna shoot poor Thelma  
Just to see her jump and fall.  
**Yodel**

4. I'm going where the water  
Drinks like cherry wine, sing 'em boy, sing 'em  
Lawd, I'm going where the water  
Drinks like cherry wine  
'Cause the Georgia water  
Tastes like turpentine.  
**Yodel**

5. I'm gonna buy me a shotgun  
With a great long shiny barrel  
I'm gonna buy me a shotgun  
With a great long shiny barrel  
I'm gonna shoot that rounder  
That stole away my gal.  
**Yodel**

6. I'd rather drink muddy water,  
Sleep in a hollow log  
I'd rather drink muddy water,  
And sleep in a hollow log  
Than to be in Atlanta  
Treated like a dirty dog.  
**Yodel**

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"T for Texas", also known as "Blue Yodel No. 1" is Jimmie Rodgers's first Blue Yodel was recorded on 30 November 1927 in the Trinity Baptist Church at Camden, New Jersey. When the original 78 issue of the song was released in February 1928 it sold more than a half million copies, a phenomenal number at the time.

The Blue Yodel songs are a series of thirteen songs written and recorded by Jimmie Rodgers during the period from 1927 to his death in May 1933. They were called "blue yodels" to distinguish them from Swiss yodels. The songs were based on the 12-bar blues format and featured Rodgers' trademark yodel refrains.

Rodgers' background in the blackface minstrel-shows and as a railroad worker enabled him to develop a unique musical hybridization drawing from both black and white traditions, as exemplified by the Blue Yodel songs. In his recordings Rodgers and his producer, Ralph Peer, achieved a "vernacular combination of blues, jazz, and traditional folk" to produce a style of music then called 'hillbilly'.

It was recorded by Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Pete Seeger and others. It was printed in Pete Seeger's **Bells of Rhymney**.