

## Rock all Our Babies to Sleep

The musical score is written in G Major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, G, D7, G, C, G, D7, G, Am, G, D7, G, Am, D7, G. The score includes first and second endings, marked with '1.' and '2.' above the notes.

"Rock All Our Babies to Sleep", also known as "Lonnie's Breakdown" is an old-time waltz in 3/4 time and G Major. The parts are played AA'BB.

A waltz derived from a song of the same name that was recorded by a number of early country music stars, including Jimmie Rodgers (1932), Uncle Dave Macon (1926) and the Leake County Ramblers (1928). The lyrics depict a man who stays at home 'rocking all the babies to sleep', deserted by a wife who has left to enjoy the nightlife of the town. The song was derived from "Hush-a-bye Baby," recorded by George P. Watson in 1910. This is the instrumental version. We play a simpler version at our local old-time jam.

This version is from Lonnie Robertson (1908-1981, Springfield, Mo.), who learned it in Shenandoah, Iowa, during a stint playing for a radio station there.

It was printed in Beisswenger & McCann's **Ozarks Fiddle Music** (2008).

It was recorded by Jimmie Rodgers on **The Singing Brakeman** and Lonnie Robertson on **Lonnie's Breakdown** (1978).