

The Blue Guitar

Wallace Stevens*

Fred Blumenthal

♩ = 100

Guitar 1

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Bass Guitar

Voice

The man bent ov-er his guit - ar,

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

6

A shears-man of sorts.

*In (edited by Frank Kermode and Joan Richardson): Stevens – Collected Poetry & Prose
The Library of America, 1997) p. 135.

The Blue Guitar

2
11

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

11

This system contains measures 2 through 11. Gtr. 1 plays a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. Gtr. 2 provides harmonic support with chords. Gtr. 3 remains silent. The Bass line features a consistent eighth-note pattern. A vocal line at the bottom begins at measure 11 with a whole rest.

16

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

16

This system contains measures 16 through 20. Gtr. 1 continues its melodic line. Gtr. 2 plays chords. Gtr. 3 enters with a simple melody. The Bass line continues its eighth-note pattern. A vocal line at the bottom begins at measure 16 with a whole rest.

The day was green.

The Blue Guitar

3

21

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

21

They said, "You have a blue guit - ar,

26

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

26

The Blue Guitar

4
31

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

31

You do not play things as they are."

36

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

36

The

41

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

41

man re-plied, "things as they are

46

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

46

Are changed up-on the blue guit-

The Blue Guitar

6
51

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

51

ar."

56

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

56

And they said then, "But play, you must,

The Blue Guitar

7

61

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

A

66

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

tune be-yond us, yet our - selves,

The Blue Guitar

8
71

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

71

A tune up - on the blue guit - ar

76

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

76

81

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

Bass

81

Of things ex-act-ly as they are."

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