

NOT FADE AWAY

gDGBD

C.HARDIN N.PETTY
1957

It depends how old you are and what musical heritage you come from to recognise the classic versions of this song

Original song

Buddy Holly and the Crickets recorded the song in 1957 . It is based on the Bo Diddley beat. Famously, Jerry Allison, the Crickets drummer , played a cardboard box to get the sound he wanted

"Not Fade Away" was originally released as the B-side of the hit single "Oh, Boy!" and never charted as a single.

In 1964, the Rolling Stones' version was a major hit in the United Kingdom. It was the A-side of the band's first US single.

It reached No 3 in the UK and virtually launched the Stones onto the UK and world public.

The band used it for over 30 years, often using it as a show opener on world tours.

With its almost Afro beat and wailing harmonica it is verging (as usual) on The Blues
You can almost imagine plantation workers clogdancing to it as a banjo frails away .

Its here as well because of its longevity and popularity. Note that the original was penned about 70 years ago.

Its still being recorded .Notable recent recordings include The Grateful Dead's 1971 recording and Rush recorded a version of "Not Fade Away" as their debut single in 1973, which charted in Canada.

More recently John Scofield included the song in his 2022 album.