

PRETEND

gDGBD

L.Douglas C. Parman F.Levere
1952

The guitar tablature for "Pretend" is written in 4/4 time and uses the G-D-G-B-D tuning. It consists of seven systems of two staves each. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The second system contains a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes. The third system has two first endings marked '1' and '2'. The fourth system continues the rhythmic pattern. The fifth system features a series of repeated notes with a 'brushthumb' motion. The sixth system repeats the first system's structure. The seventh system repeats the second system's structure. The piece ends with a final chord.

Play this very lively with a strong Clawhammer "brushthumb" motion where possible. Watch out for the repetitive notes to get the right amount or the timing will suffer.

"Pretend" was written in 1952

Nat King Cole's version reached the Billboard Best Seller chart in January 1953, and lasted 20 weeks in the chart reaching No. 3.

It reached No. 2 in the UK Singles Chart in 1953

2 cover versions sidled into the bottom ends of the charts and then disappeared

A further 2 versions in 1957 and 1959 had a similar fate.

Alvin Stardust's cover version was a popular hit in the United Kingdom in 1981, when it reached No. 4 in the UK Singles Chart.

Other notable versions were recorded by

Brenda Lee (1960), Gerry & The Pacemakers, Johnny Preston, Sammy Davis Jr., Marvin Gaye (1965), and Don Williams (1995)