

Linstead

Jamaican Folk Song

Standard Tuning

Arr: Mark Hanson

♩ = 120

G/B G G/B C C/E D Am D/F# D7 G D7

1

G G/D G/B C C/E D/F# Am Am/C Am G/D D/F# G

5

G G/F C/E Am D D7/A G C/G G

9

Detailed description: This block contains the first three systems of musical notation for the song 'Linstead'. Each system consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. Below the treble staff are three guitar strings (T, A, B) with fret numbers and fingerings. The first system covers measures 1-4, the second covers measures 5-8, and the third covers measures 9-12. The notation includes chords, melodic lines with triplets and slurs, and guitar-specific instructions like bar lines and fingerings.

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The tune “Linstead” comes from Jamaica; Linstead is a town in St. Catherine Parish. Former 100m world record holder Asafa Powell is a Linstead native. - Often the wonderful rhythms of the Caribbean divide 4/4 time into eight eighth notes, grouped 3x3x2. This occurs in the odd-numbered measures of the verses, and in the first three measures of each four-bar phrase in the chorus. In the verses (Ms. 1-8 and 18-25) each 3x3x2 measure is followed by a measure of two quarter notes and a half note - a very cool rhythmic juxtaposition.

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13

G G/F C/E Am D/F# D D7

1. G C/G G

TAB

B

17

2. G C/E G/F C/E C C/E F G

TAB

B

20

Dm G/B G7 C/E G C/E C C/E

TAB

B

23

F G Dm Dm/F F C/G G C

TAB

B

“Linstead” - P.3

Chords: C, C7/E, F, Dm, G, G/B, C, F/C, C

Chords: C, C7/G, F, Dm, G/F, G/D, G, C, F/C, C

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Continued from P.1

I have arranged this fingerstyle guitar version in two keys. It starts out in the key of G, and modulates in measure 17 to C major. Follow the fingering suggestions in the standard notation, especially in Ms. 12 and 16 where the ring finger frets the sixth string.

In the key of C, starting at measure 18, I slide my little finger on the first string in Ms.18-19 and 22-23, as well as in Ms.27-28 and 31-32. There are other ways to fret these passages without sliding, but the glissando effect seems to fit the character of the music.

Perhaps the most challenging fretting-hand fingering will be Ms.29 and 33. The C chord requires your index finger to fret the second string at the 5th fret while you fret the first and sixth strings at the 8th fret. This is a great voicing of a C chord, especially when you add the open third string to the chord on the third beat. In these two measures, sustain the C note on the sixth string as you play the F/C on beat two.

A sacred text using this tune appears in the New Century hymnal entitled “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ.”