

Blueberry Hill (1956)

Fats Domino

LISTEN FOR

- Stylistic synthesis typical of New Orleans
 - Shuffle (triplet) groove and boogie-woogie bass line (R&B, jazz)
 - Changes in saxophone texture (jump band blues)
 - AABA (Tin Pan Alley)
- Laid back groove and Fats's sweet vocal style

CREATION

<i>Songwriters</i>	Al Lewis and Larry Stock (lyrics), Vincent Rose (music)
<i>Label</i>	Imperial 5407
<i>Musicians</i>	Antoine "Fats" Domino (voice, piano), Buddy Hagans, Wendell Duconge, Eddie Silvers (saxophones), Lawrence Guyton (bass), Walter Nelson (guitar), Cornelius Coleman (drums)
<i>Producer</i>	Dave Bartholomew
<i>Engineer</i>	Bunny Robyn
<i>Recording</i>	Master Recorders (Hollywood); June 1956; mono
<i>Charts</i>	Pop 2; R&B 1

MUSIC

<i>Genre</i>	rock and roll
<i>Form</i>	AABA with partial reprise
<i>Key</i>	B major
<i>Meter</i>	4/4

LISTENING GUIDE

Time	Form	Lyric Cue	Listen For
0:00			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Orleans feel: piano triplets in right hand (doubled with ride cymbal) and

Time	Form	Lyric Cue	Listen For
			boogie-woogie pattern played by piano left hand (plus guitar and bass). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bright snare backbeat.
0:12	A (8)	"I found my thrill"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocal enters, intro texture continues. Saxophones play sustained chords
0:33	A (8)	"The moon stood still"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texture continues
0:53	B (8)	"The wind in the willow"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saxophones play melodic answers to vocal phrases, providing contrast. Increased harmonic movement. Boogie-woogie pattern suspended.
1:14	A (8)	"Though we're apart"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like previous A.
1:35	B (8)	"The wind in the willow"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like previous B. The phrase "but all of those vows you made" is a spliced copy.
1:56	A (8)	"Though we're apart"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like previous A.

LYRICS

I found my thrill
On Blueberry Hill
On Blueberry Hill
When I found you

Though we're apart
You're part of me still
For you were my thrill
On Blueberry Hill

The moon stood still
On Blueberry Hill
And lingered until
My dream came true

The wind in the willow played
Love's sweet melody
But all of those vows you made
Were never to be

The wind in the willow played
Love's sweet melody
But all of those vows you made
Were never to be

Though we're apart
You're part of me still
For you were my thrill
On Blueberry Hill

SOURCES

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- Joseph Schloss, Larry Starr, and Christopher Waterman, *Rock: Music, Culture, and Business* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), 596
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