Billy Strayhorn wrote this jazz standard during the time he was associated with the great Duke Ellington and his band. The "A" train is a New York City subway line that runs up to Harlem. Sugar Hill, a posh neighborhood in Harlem, became a popular residential area among wealthy African-Americans during the Harlem Renaissance (1920s to early 1930s).

## TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

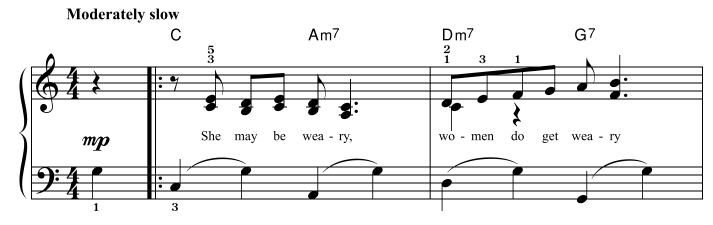


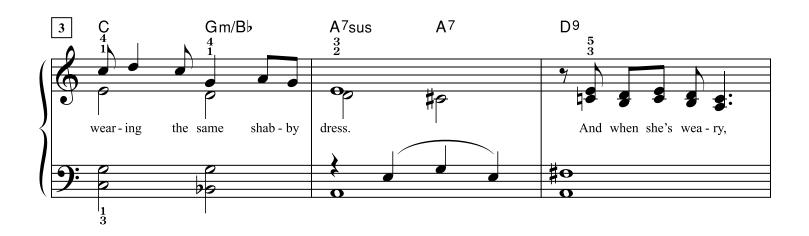
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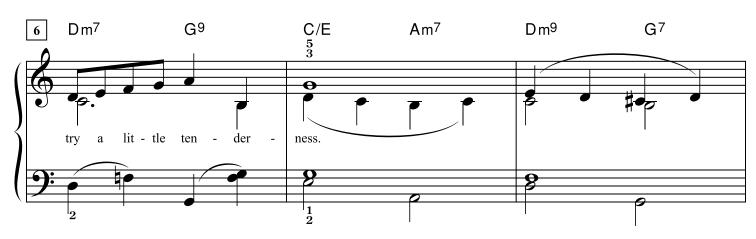
"Try a Little Tenderness" became a hit for Bing Crosby in 1933, and a couple of decades later Frank Sinatra made another outstanding recording of the piece. In 1966, this standard was given a soulful rendition by Otis Redding, and has remained a staple of the R & B circuit ever since.

## TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS

Words and Music by Harry Woods, Jimmy Campbell and Reg Connelly







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Sicilian singer/songwriter Domenico Modugno was unknown outside of Italy until he won the San Remo Song Festival by singing this tune under the title "Nel blu, dipinto di blu." It was such a big hit in Italy that Mitchell Parish added an English lyric, and under the title "Volarè" ("to fly"), Bobby Rydell's recording turned it into an American smash.



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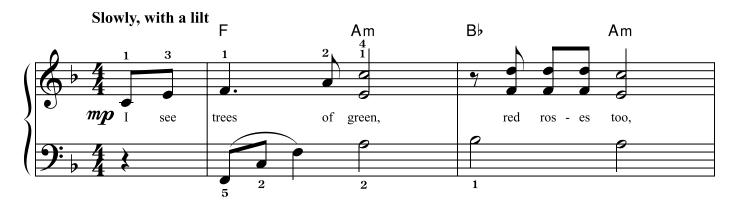
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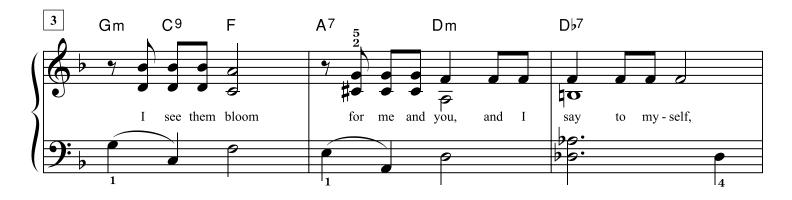
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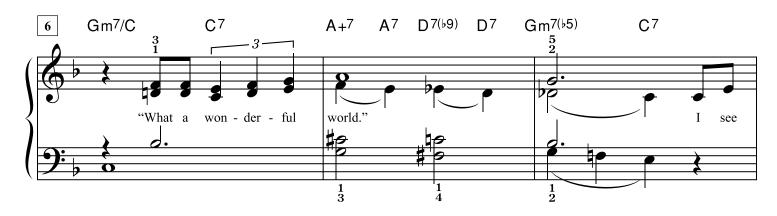
Beloved trumpeter/vocalist Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong was crucial to the development of jazz and swing. His trumpet playing influenced virtually every player of the period, and his inimitable vocal stylings echoed through the recordings of Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, and many other singers. This 1967 song was Louis's last hit, and along with *Hello Dolly* is still his best-known work from an over 50-year career.

## WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

Words and Music by George David Weiss and Bob Thiele







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