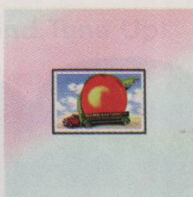


Little Martha

Music by Duane Allman, arranged by Mark Hanson



The Allman Brothers' acoustic fingerpicking gem "Little Martha" originally appeared on the band's 1972 album, *Eat a Peach*. Although the original recording was played as a duet by Duane Allman and Dickie Betts (fingerstylists Leo Kottke and Tim Farrell have recorded enjoyable solo versions of the song), this arrangement combines the two parts into a seamless and remarkably playable solo guitar piece. The guitar's open strings

should sound as open-E tuning (from low to high, E B E G# B E) if you want to match the recording, but since open E creates a lot of string tension, I'd suggest tuning down from standard to open D (D A D F# A D) and putting a capo on the second fret.

My arrangement is quite true to the original. Play the opening six measures in rubato style (free tempo). Start the steady tempo (about 182 bpm) at measure 7, where the introduction segues into the main theme (measure 8). The tune consists of two-measure phrases, each of which immediately repeats with a slight melodic alteration. Study the phrase in measures 8–9 and its altered repetition in measures 10–11.

Also see measures 16–19, 25–28, and 35–38.

General picking sequences for sections B, C, and D are demonstrated in the first measures of each. Practice them without the fretting hand until they are secure. Notice the rhythms, the quarter-note drone bass, and the double-time thumb on the last beat of the second measure of each phrase (9, 11, 13, etc.). This rhythmic "kick" into the next phrase occurs throughout section B. In measure 35, I recommend a three-finger hammer-on in front of the half barre. You may need to bend your index finger backward slightly at the first knuckle to provide enough attack angle for your hammer-on fingers. In measure 38, wait for beat four to play the final bass note. In measures 41 and 43, count silently "1–2–3, 1–2–3, 1–2–3" in eighth notes (picking the chords on "1") to ensure that these dotted-quarter-note chords sustain for the proper amount of time. Have fun!

—MARK HANSON

Open-D tuning: D A D F# A D

Capo II

A

Freely

♩ = 182
A Tempo

B

8

B V ----- B V -----

16

H P H

20

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Little Martha

C

1/2 B VIII - 1/2 B V - 1/2 B VII - 1/2 B VIII - 1/2 B V -

24

i p p i p p a m i p p a m i p p

29

1.

P

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D

2.

1/2 B VII ----- 1/2 B V -----

33

Harm. -----

a m i p h p i a m a m i

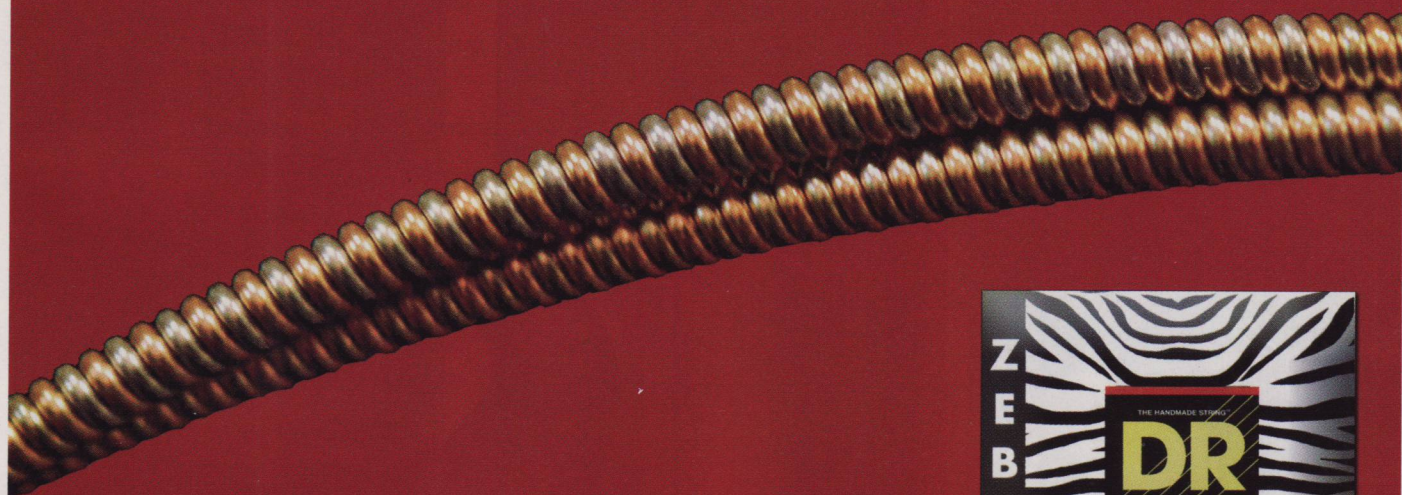
37

1/2 B VII ----- 1/2 B V ----- 1/2 B VII ----- 1/2 B V -----

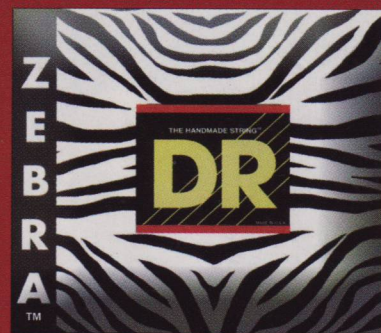
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1. $\frac{1}{2}$ B V - $\frac{1}{2}$ B VII ----- $\frac{1}{2}$ B V - $\frac{1}{2}$ B VII

2. D.S. al Coda

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