

- 1. Two Step d'Amédé**
(Marc Savoy—Tradition Music Co.)
- 2. La Valse de Marie (A)**
- 3. Quitté La Maison (A)**
(I Left My House For Big Texas)
- 4. J'Aimerais Connaitre (M)**
(I'd Like To Know)
(Adam Herbert—Flat Town Music Co.)
- 5. La Danse de Limonade (A)**
(The Lemonade Song)
- 6. The Kaplan Waltz (A)**
- 7. Ton Papa M'a Jeté Dehors (M)**
(Your Papa Threw Me Out)
- 8. Good-Bye, Brown Eyes (A)**
- 9. Lapin Dans Son Nique (A)**
(Rabbit In Its Nest)
(Ann & Marc Savoy—Tradition Music Co.)
- 10. Jolies Joues Roses (A)**
(Pretty Pink Cheeks)
(Austin Pitre)
- 11. Diggy Liggy Lo (A)**
- 12. Flammes d'Enfer (M)**
(The Flames of Hell or: Stuck In
Traffic On The Oakland Bay Bridge)
- 13. La Negress (A)**
(Pinegrove Blues)
- 14. La Queue de Tortue (A)**
(Turtle Tail)

Marc Savoy—accordion; **Ann Savoy**—guitar & vocals (A); **Michael Doucet**—fiddle & vocals (M); **Elizabeth Weil**—bass (except #5, 9, 10, & 11 where **Tina Pilione** plays bass).

#5, 9, 10, & 11: recorded in Crowley, La. May 4, 1988; #12, 13, & 14: recorded at the Great American Music Hall, San Francisco, Ca. November 23, 1988; all other selections recorded at Bay Records, Berkeley, Ca. November 22, 1988.

Produced by Chris Strachwitz and the Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band

Cover photo by Philip Gould

Cover by Beth Weil

Notes, transcriptions and translations of songs by Ann Savoy

Note: Ann Savoy's classic book "Cajun Music: A Reflection Of A People" (Bluebird Press – Box 941 – Eunice, La. 70535) is available from her directly or at all superior record shops.

Where no composer is given, the songs are traditional and the arrangements are by Marc Savoy, Ann Savoy & Michael Doucet and © by Tradition Music Co.



The Songs

2. LA VALSE DE MARIE: We learned this song from Aldus Roger and the singing of Joel Sonnier and the beautiful melody has stayed with us.

LA VALSE DE MARIE

Je peux pas t'oublier, bébé,
Tu connais, mon, je t'aimais
Tu connais, mon, je t'aimais, bébé,
Depuis l'âge de quatorze ans.
O, Marie, bébé, gardons quoi t'as fait,
Gardons t'après me quitter, bébé,
Quitter ton pauvre vieux nèg.

MARIE'S WALTZ

I can't forget you, baby,
You know I've been loving you
You know I've been loving you, baby,
Since I was fourteen years old.
Oh, Marie, look what you've done
Look, you're leaving me
Leaving your poor old man.

3. QUITTÉ LA MAISON: This song we learned from a recording by the Hackberry Ramblers. Marc used to play it with the late, great fiddler Cheese Read.

QUITTÉ LA MAISON

J'ai quitté de la maison pour m'en aller dans
Texas
J'ai quitté ma pauvre vieille mom
parceque mon coeur est si cassé.
J'aimerais être avec toi mais la belle elle
veut pas
Elle veut rester, ouais, ici, beaucoup loin
d'ou tu t'es.

I LEFT MY HOUSE FOR BIG TEXAS

I left my house to go to Texas
I left my poor old mom because my heart
was so broken.
I'd like to be with you but my girlfriend
doesn't want to
She wants to stay here, very far from
where you are.

4. J'AIMERAIS CONNAÎTRE: This is a beautiful song written by one of our favorite Cajun songwriters, Adam Hébert.

J'AIMERAIS CONNAÎTRE

Quand t'as parti ça fait déjà beaucoup
longtemps
Et on a eu pour séparer par obligeance
Et quand-même tu, t'es bien soigné éou toi t'es
J'aimerais connatre si jamais tu vas revenir.
Le Bon Dieu cherche dans mes yeux que
nous séparer
Ça devrait être qu'on reste toujours,
ouais, ensemble.
Et quand-même tu t'es bien soigné éou toi t'es
J'aimerais connatre si jamais tu vas revenir.

I'D LIKE TO KNOW

It's been a long time since you left
And we were obliged to part
Even though you're well cared for,
where are you?
I'd like to know if you're gonna' come back.
The good Lord saw in my eyes that we
were separated
We should have been allowed to stay
together forever
Even if you are well cared for, where are you?
I'd like to know if you're ever gonna' come back.

5. LA DANSE DE LIMONADE: This is an old song recorded by many people. Columbus Frugé made an early recording of it and later it was popularized by Leroy Broussard and Nathan Abshire. Hadacol was the "miraculous" health tonic that Dudley LeBlanc made popular. Besides supposedly curing everything it had a good percentage of alcohol in it!

LA DANSE DE LIMONADE

Mon j'aime cousin, mon j'aime cousin,
j'aime mieux la cuisinière
Mais Samedi au soir, mon, j'ai été au bal
Je m'ai saoulé comme un gros cochon
Dimanche matin j'ai tout manière de malade
Donc, passez-moi un verre de limonade.
L'hiver arrive, l'hiver arrive, ton 'tit nèg n'a
pas de couverts
Mon je mange des tartes, et je bois du vin,
tout ça, ça me coûte pas rien
Dimanche matin j'ai tous manières de malade
Donc, passe-moi un verre de Hadacol.

THE LEMONADE SONG

I like my girl cousin, I like my boy cousin,
but I like the cook the best
Saturday night I was at the dance, I got
drunk like a big pig.
Sunday morning I'm sick in every way
So pass me a glass of lemonade.
Winter comes, Winter comes, your little
man doesn't have any covers
I eat pies, I drink wine, none of that costs
me anything
Sunday morning I'm sick in every way
So pass me a glass of Hadacol.

6. THE KAPLAN WALTZ: The tune of this song touches the heart. We've always loved it but when we heard Angelas LeJeune sing it we had to record it.

THE KAPLAN WALTZ

O, mon je m'en va's, mon je m'en va's à
grand Kaplan
Tu m'as laissé dans les misères.
Tu m'as laissé, ouais, là-bas grand Kaplan.
O, tous les soirs, quand je m'endors, dans
mes rêves
Ça me ressemble que je vois
Tes chers 'tits yeux après me guetter à grand
Kaplan, y yaie.

THE KAPLAN WALTZ

Oh, I'm going, I'm going to big Kaplan
You left me in misery
You left me over in big Kaplan.
Oh, every night, when I'm tired, in my
dreams
It seems to me that I see
Your dear little eyes watching me in big
Kaplan.

7. TON PAPA M'A JETÉ DEHORS: This song was recorded by Mayeus Lafleur in 1928. Marc plays it in "G", a position it isn't normally played in, and Mike made up the words.

TON PAPA M'A JETÉ DEHORS

Ton papa m'a jeté dehors, comment je va's
faire aujourd 'hui
O y yaie mon coeur fait mal, à cause de toi,
ma chère cherie.
O y yaie, tous les étoiles après tomber.
Ton papa m'a jeté dehors, comment je v'as
faire aujourd 'hui
Je pense à toi, je jongle à toi, et tous les soirs
je vis pour toi.
O y yaie, c'est mon coeur qui me fait
du mal.

YOUR PAPA THREW ME OUT

Your Papa threw me out, what am I gonna'
do now?
Oh, my heart is hurting because of you,
my darling.
Oh, all the stars are falling.

Your Papa threw me out what am I gonna'
do now?
I think of you, I think of you and every night
I live for you.
Oh, it's my heart that's hurting.

8. GOOD-BYE BROWN EYES: This is our version of a song by Blind Uncle Gaspard. Ann made up the words based on phrases remembered from Gaspard and Lachney tunes. Mike knew the song on the fiddle, only he made it come to life with a new richness and feeling.

GOOD-BYE BROWN EYES

Good-bye, good-bye, mes chers 'tits yeux bruns
T'après m'en aller, m'en aller pour toujours.
J'aurais jamais crût'aurais pu, ouais, me laisser,
T'aurais pu, ouais, me laisser,
Avec mon après, ouais, te guetter.

Ces chers 'tits yeux que moi j'aime utant
Mon je crois je les vois après me guetter
tout la nuit.

J'aimerais mieux être six pieds dans la terre
Que de rester tous mes jours aussi loin de
toi, bébé.

Tes chère 'tites mains blanches que j'aime
autant embrasser

Je va's jamais les revoir sur la terre du
Bon Dieu.

And so bye-bye, bye-bye pour toujours,
Bye-bye pour toujours, mes chers 'tits yeux
bruns.

9. LAPIN DANS SON SON NIQUE: This song came from a tune by Sidney Brown, "The Rolling Pin". Ann made up the words using a few lines in the first verse from a song by Moise Robin called "Grosse Mama".

LAPIN DANS SON NIQUE

Aujourd 'hui j'suis icite à grande Eunice
Si heureuse comme un lapin dans son nique

GOOD-BYE BROWN EYES

Good-bye, good-bye, my dear brown eyes
You're leaving me, leaving me forever.

I never would have believed
You could have left me
You could have left me with me standing
there watching you.

Your dear little eyes I love so much
I believe I see them watching me all the night.
I'd rather be six feet in the ground
Than to stay the rest of my life so far from
you, baby.

Your dear little white hands that I love to
kiss so much

I'll never see them again on the good
Lord's earth.

And so bye-bye, bye-bye forever
Bye-bye forever my dear little brown
eyes.

RABBIT IN ITS NEST

Today I'm here in big Eunice
So happy, like a rabbit in it's nest

Toi avec ton accordéon dans les mains
Joue-la, joue, tra-la-la, Joue-la, joue.

Quatres enfants, 'tites joues roses à la maison
Vieille maison, beau chêne vert dedans la cours
Etouffée après cuire dessus le stove
Bons amis a viennent de tout par tout.

10. JOLIES JOUES ROSES: This is a beautiful song by Austin Pitre. Austin showed Mike how he played it, Marc figured out an accordion part for it, and Ann made up some words based on Austin's version of the song.

JOLIES JOUES ROSES

Dimanche matin, je me rêve, je me rase,
Ouais, pour voir ma "joues roses", ouais,
que mon j'aime autant.

Jolie 'tites joues roses, tu connais t'es la
seule dans mon coeur
Aujourd' hui ton 'tit nèg a parti.

Jolie 'tite joues roses, tu connais t'es la
seule dans mon coeur
Aujourd' hui ton 'tit nèg a parti.
Jolie 'tite joues roses reste tout le temps
avec mon

Chères joues roses, je va's te soigner
comme la 'tite fille à Pop et Mom.

11. DIGGY LIGGY LO: This is an old song that was made famous by Doug Kershaw. We learned it from a 78 rpm record by the Clement Brothers.

You, with your accordion in your hands
Play it, Play tra-la-la, Play it, play.
Four children, little pink cheeks at the house
Old house, big green oak in the yard
Etouffée cooking on the stove
Good friends come from everywhere.

PRETTY PINK CHEEKS

Sunday morning I'm dreaming, I get up
and shave
To go see my "pink cheeks" who I love so
much.
Pretty pink cheeks, you know you're the
only one in my heart
Today your man left you.
Pretty pink cheeks, you know you're the
only one in my heart
Today your man left
Pretty pink cheeks, stay all the time with me
Dear pink cheeks, I'll take care of you like
Mom and Pop's little girl.

DIGGY LIGGY LO

C'est ma soeur, Diggy Liggy La
Elle s'est mariée avec Diggy Liggy Lo
Pour rester dans le village
Diggy Liggy Lo et Diggy Liggy La.
Diggy Liggy Lo 'trappe Po Po
Diggy Liggy La tombe sur le plombeau
Pour s'en va tout par tout
Diggy Liggy Lo et Diggy Liggy La.

FLAMMES D'ENFER

Ma vieille maman, mais, m'a tout le temps dit
Tu vas brailler, bébé, quand tu seras grand
Tu vas trouver un' jolie fille
Qui va le canailler pour faire un bon temps
(Chorus)

O, chère bébé, priez pour mon,
Sauvez mon me des flammes d'enfer
O, chère bébé, priez pour mon,
Sauvez mon me de les flammes d'enfer.
Quand je va's mourir enterrer mon pas,
Enterre mon pas dans la cimitière,
Mais enterre mon dans le coin de ton cours,
Mais dans le de la cours de ton Papa.

LA QUEUE DE TORTUE

S'en aller la Queue de Tortue, bébé,
Pour manger du pain perdu,
Pour manger du pain perdu,
Pour manger du pain perdu.

DIGGY LIGGY LO

Diggy Liggy La is my sister
She married Diggy Liggy Lo
So she could live in town
Diggy Liggy Lo and Diggy Liggy La.
Diggy Liggy Lo catches Po Po the horse
Diggy Liggy La falls on the saddle horn
To go ride around everywhere
Diggy Liggy Lo and Diggy Liggy La.

THE FLAMES OF HELL

My old mama always told me,
You're gonna' cry baby when you grow up
You're gonna' find a pretty girl
Who is going to fool you into having a good time
(Chorus)

Oh, dear baby, pray for me
Save my soul from the flames of hell
Oh, dear baby, pray for me
Save my soul from the flames of hell.
When I die don't bury me,
Don't bury me in the cemetery
But bury me in the corner of your yard
In the yard of your Dad.

TURTLE TRAIL

Let's go to Turtle Tail Bayou, baby
To eat French toast,
To eat French toast,
To eat French toast.

Songs transcribed and translated by Ann Savoy

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Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band

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Marc Savoy – accordion; Ann Savoy – guitar and vocals (A); Michael Doucet – violin & vocals (M); Elizabeth Weil or Tina Pilione – string bass.

Recorded in Louisiana and California in 1988
(last three songs live at the Great American
Music Hall in San Francisco).

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