

# Margaritaville (1977)

8/22/2022

key: [D] artist/writer: Jimmy Buffet arr: Pete McCarty

**Tempo:** One instrument sets the tempo (playing the intro)  
**Vocalists:** Soloist sings the verses. Band sings the shaded text as indicated.  
**Strum:** Calypso: Dn Up Dn Up Dn Up

**Intro riff:** One instrument plays the intro, with others playing single strum chords underneath  
[D] [G] [A] [D]

**Verse 1:** [D] Nibblin' on sponge cake, watchin' the sun bake;  
All of those tourists covered with [A] oil.  
Strummin' my [A] FOUR string, on my front porch swing.  
Smell those shrimp, they're beginnin' to [D] boil. [D7]

**Chorus:** [G] wasted a [A]-way again in Marga-[D]ritaville, [D7]  
[G] searchin' for my [A] lost shaker of [D] salt. [D7]  
[G] some people [A] claim that there's a  
*Single strum this line:*  
[D] wo-[A]-man to [G] blame, [Stop]  
*Back to strumming:*  
[NC] but I [A] know [G] IT'S NOBODY'S [D] fault.

**Verse 2:** [D] Don't know the reason, stayed here all season  
with nothing to show but this brand new tat-[A]too.  
But it's a real beauty, a [A] Mexican cutie. How it got here  
I haven't a [D] clue. [D7]

**Chorus:** [G] wasted a [A]-way again in Marga-[D]ritaville, [D7]  
[G] searchin' for my [A] lost shaker of [D] salt. [D7]  
[G] some people [A] claim that there's a  
*Single strum this line:*  
[D] wo-[A]-man to [G] blame,  
*Back to strumming:*  
[NC] Now I [A] think, [G] HELL IT COULD BE MY [D] fault

**Instrumental solo;** Single instrument plays the notes, Band single-strums the chords (SOFTLY)

[D] [A] (rhythm is like "nibbling on sponge cake" as in the verse),  
[G] [A] [D] [A] [G] (rhythm is like "some people claim that there's a woman to blame")  
[A] [G] [D] (rhythm is like "but I know it's nobody's fault")

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Verse 3: [D] I blew out my flip flop, stepped on a pop top;  
Cut my heel, had to cruise on back [A] home.  
But there's [A] booze in the blender, and soon it will render  
that frozen concoction that helps me hang [D] on. [D7]

Chorus: [G] wasted a [A]-way again in Marga-[D]ritaville, [D7]  
[G] searchin' for my [A] lost shaker of [D] salt. [D7]  
[G] some people [A] claim that there's a  
*Single strum this line:*  
[D] wo-[A]-man to [G] blame, [Stop]  
*Back to strumming:*  
[NC] but I [A] know [G] IT'S MY OWN DAMN [D] FAULT [D7]

Outro: [G] some people [A] claim that there's a  
*Single strum this line:*  
[D] wo-[A]-man to [G] blame,  
*Back to strumming:*  
But I [A] know, [G] IT'S MY OWN DAMN [D] FAULT.

Outro riff: With the final [D] above, instrumentalist plays the outro riff (same as the intro riff).  
Band does NOT play these chords.  
Only the solo instrumentalist, while one backup instrument single strums these chords:  
[D] [G] [A] [D]

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## Links:

<https://ozbcoz.com/Songs/song.php?ID=3482,baritone> (in A)

## Release History:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 8/22/2022 | The outro is played only by the instrumental soloist and ONE single-strum backup   |
| 4/1/2022  | Formatted to standard<br>Numbered the verses and choruses for clarity<br>Indented the verses and choruses<br>Strum pattern   |
| 9/6/2021  | Removed SALT SALT SALT in the choruses. If the audience wants to sing it, then OK<br>Corrected Outro which didn't have the single strum pattern on "woman to blame"<br>We have been playing it correctly, but it wasn't documented.            |
| 8/23/2021 | [D7] added after the last line just before the outro   |
| 8/21/2021 | Rebuilt with performance notes, links and release history<br>Better indication as to who sings the sections<br>Note that the last line of each chorus has different text<br>This version includes the chords for the instrumental (and rhythm) |