

PALLET ON THE FLOOR (ATLANTA BLUES)

Old-Time, Blues Tune; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **DATE:** Early 1900's; 1923 by W.C. Handy; **RECORDING INFO:** Leake County Revelers in 1928 on Columbia 15264-D; Bogtrotters; Original Bogtrotters; Mississippi John Hurt; Mike Seeger and Paul Brown; Doc Watson; **RELATED TO:** "Ain't No Tellin'"; **OTHER NAMES:** "Make Me a Pallet on Your Floor;" "Atlanta Blues;" "Make Me a Bed on Your Floor;" **NOTES:** The title was recorded for the Library of Congress by musicologist/folklorist Vance Randolph from Ozark Mountain fiddlers in the early 1940's. The first printed version by W. C. Handy is under the title, "Atlanta Blues" in 1923 with lyrics by Dave Elman. The song is referenced in the Journal of American Folklore XXIV 278 in 1911. A favorite amongst blues players, it was remembered as one of the Bolden Band's specialties. W. C. Handy used it as a strain in his 1917 recording "Sweet Child."

C G C
 Make me down a pal-let on your floor Makeme down a pal-let on your
 D G B7 C
 floor Make it soft make it low so my good gal will ne - ver
 G D G
 know Make me a pal - let on your floor.

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C G
Chorus: Make me down a pallet on your floor
 C D
 Make me a pallet on your floor
 G B7 C
 Make it soft make it low so my good gal will never know
 G D G
 Make me a pallet on your floor.

I'm goin' to the country through the cold rain, sleet and snow.
 I'm goin' to the country through the cold rain, sleet and snow.
 I'm goin' to the country through the cold rain, sleet and snow, ain't no tellin how far I will go.

Come all you good time friends of mine
 Come all you good time friends of mine
 When I had a dollar you treated me just fine
 Where'd you go when I only had a dime. *Chorus*

I'd be more than satisfied
 If I could catch a train and ride
 When I reach Atlanta and have no place to go
 Won't you make me a pallet on your floor. *Chorus*