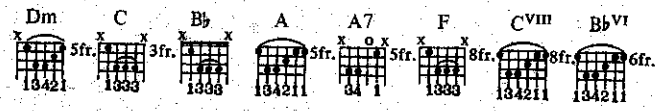
SULTANS OF SWING

As Recorded by Dire Straits

(From the album DIRE STRAITS/Warner Brothers Records)

Words and Music by Mark Knopfler



Moderate Rock ♩=152

Intro

Gtr.I
(Lead gtr.) Dm

w/Rhy. Fig. 1 *(6 times)*

(w/Chorus)

mf

sl.

Gtr. II
(Rhy. gtr.)

Rhy.Fig. 1

mf

rake

rake

sl.

rake

H P

sl.

H P

1st Verse

Dm C B♭ A

Gtr. II–
Rhy. Fig. 2

You get a shiv - er in the dark, it's a - rain - in' in the park but mean - time

Gtr. I

mp

mf

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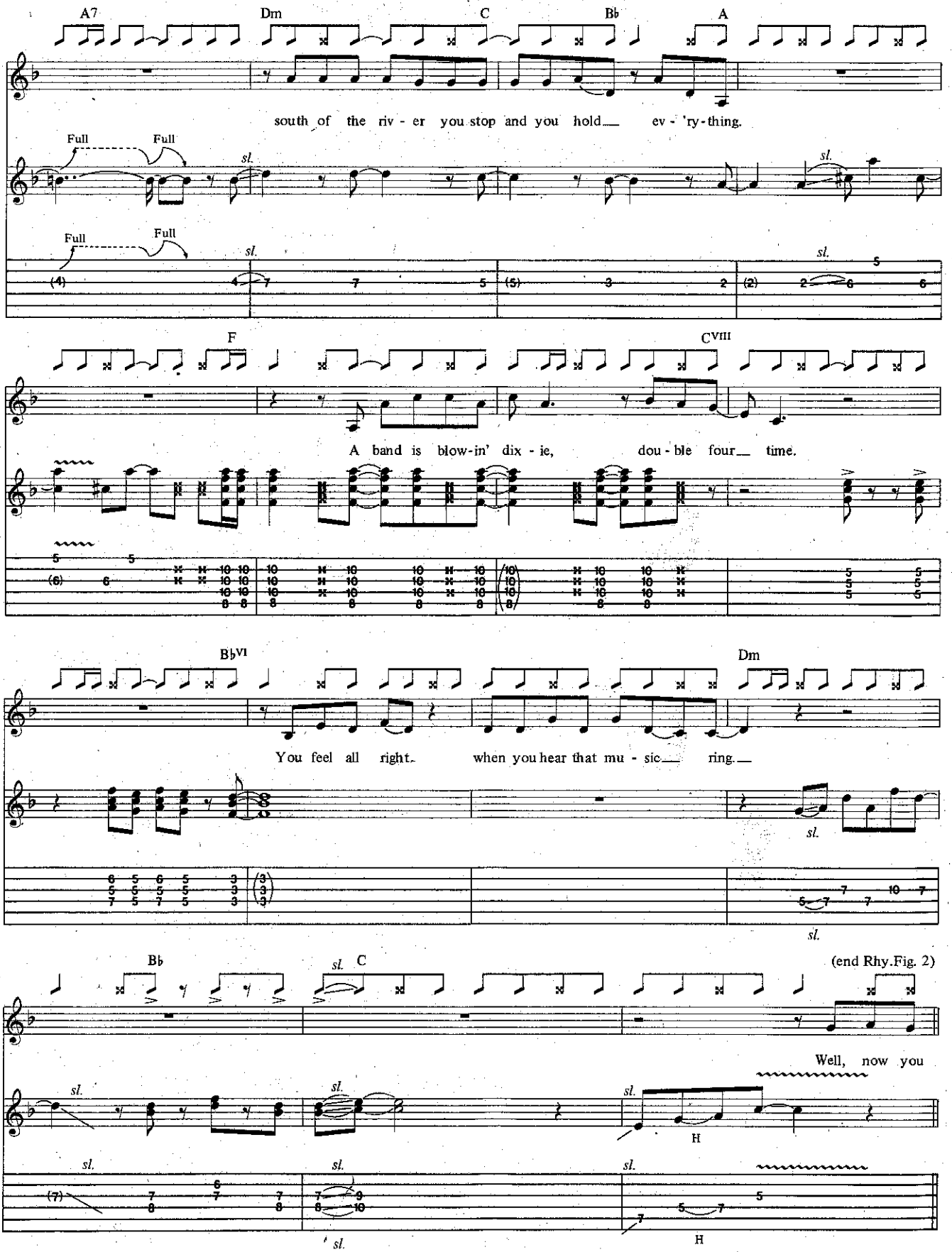
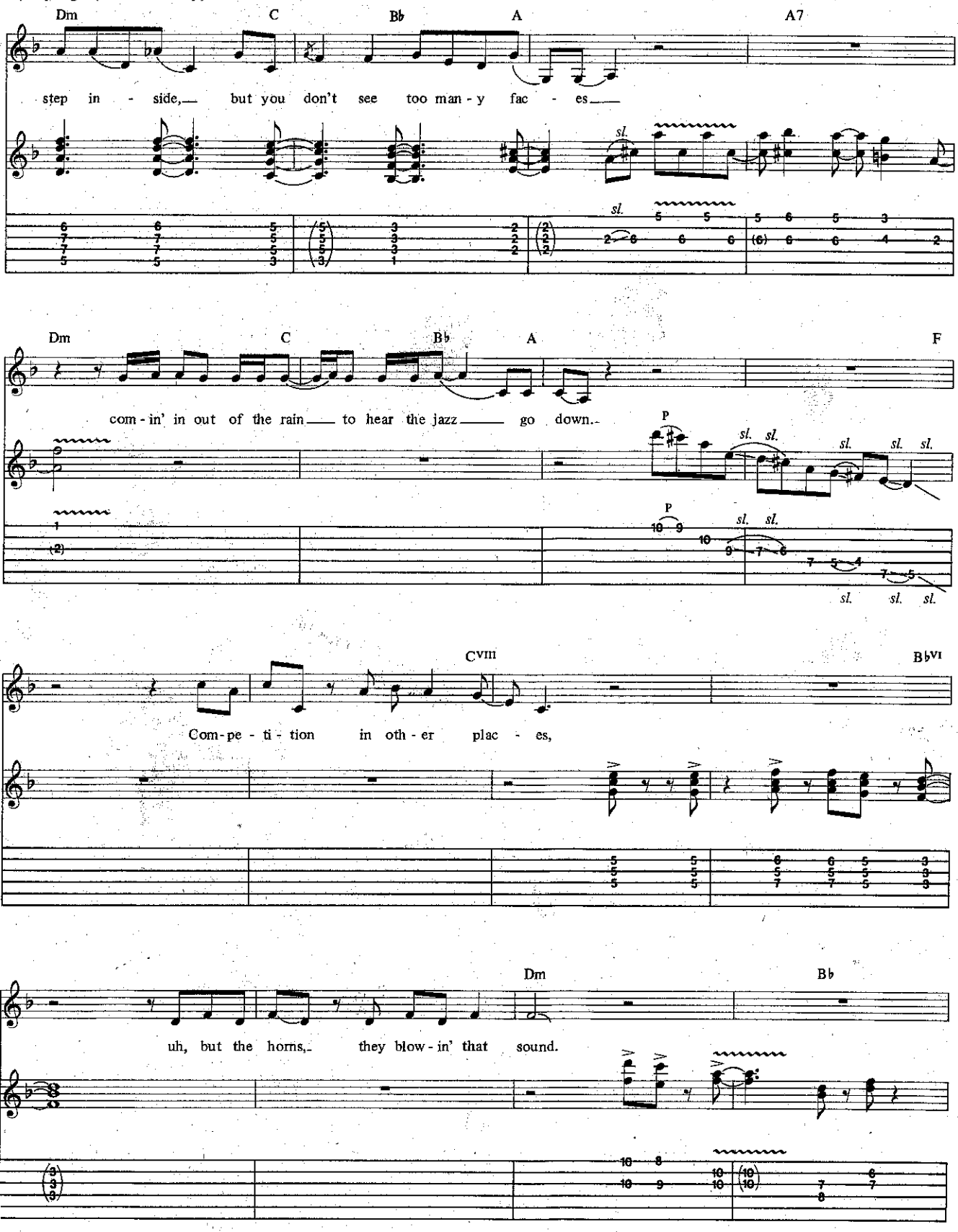
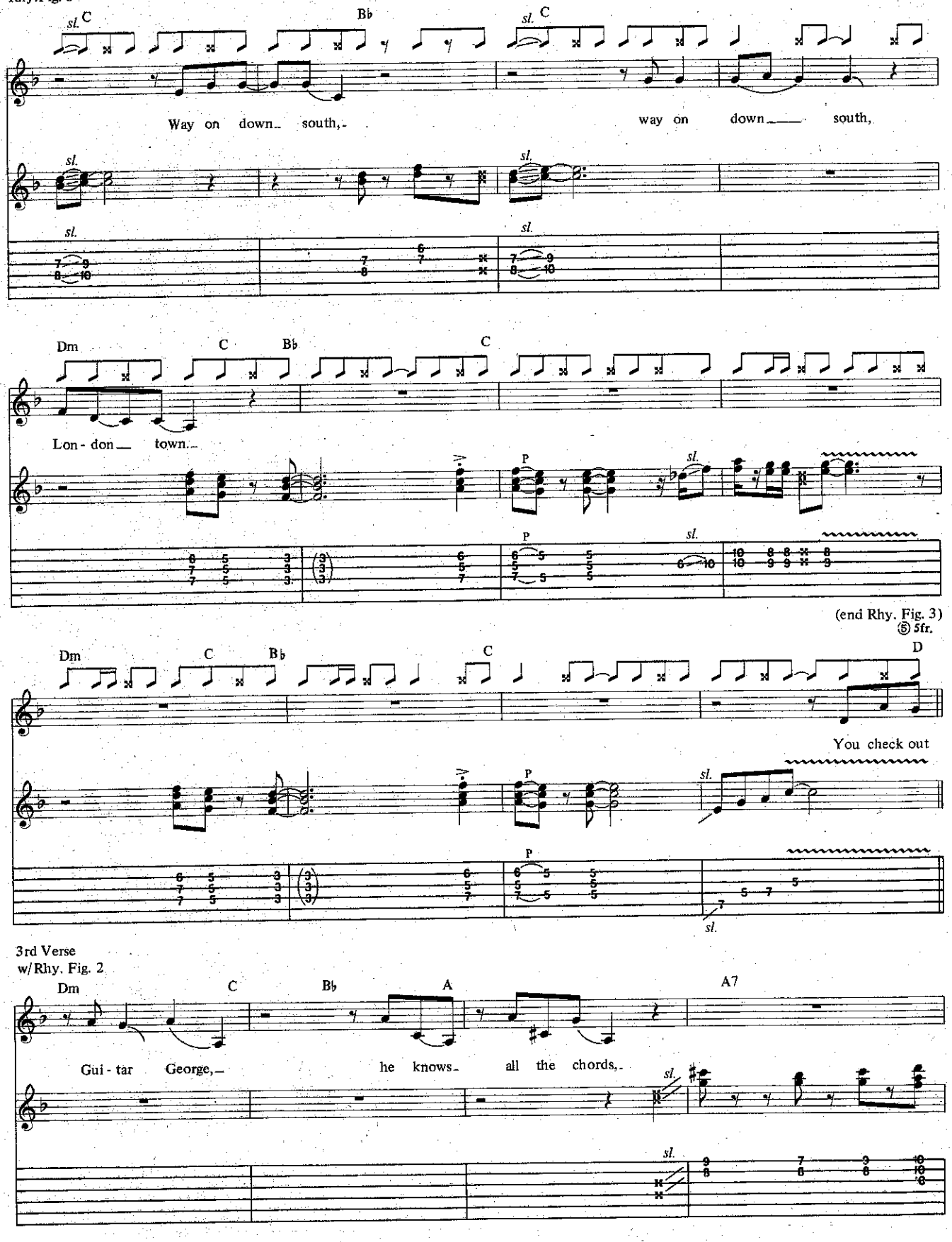
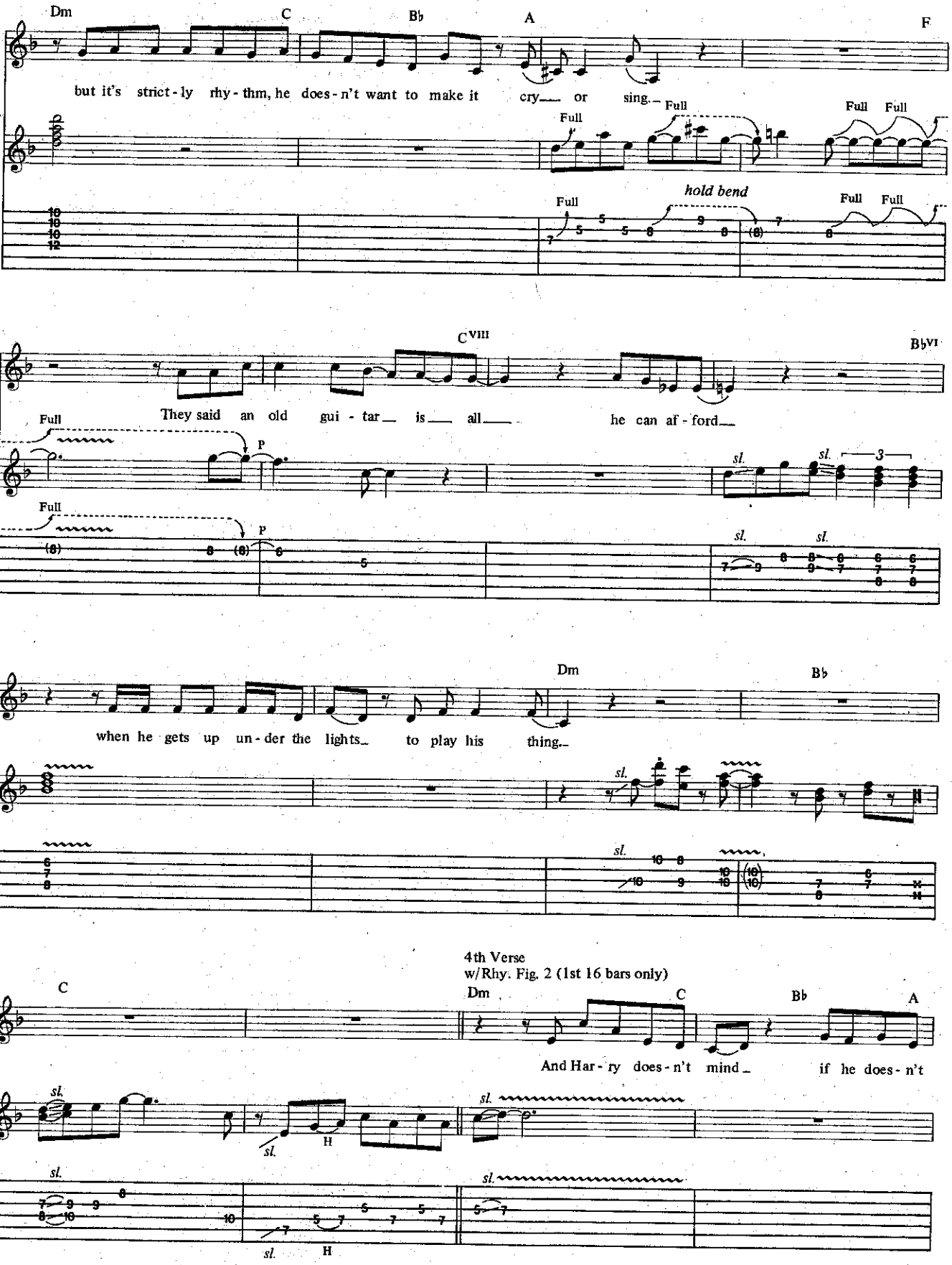

A7
Dm
C
B♭
A
south of the riv - er you stop and you hold ev - 'ry - thing.
Full
Full
sl.
F
C VIII
A band is blow-in' dix - ie, dou - ble four time.
B♭ VI
Dm
You feel all right when you hear that mu - sic ring.
B♭
C
(end Rhy.Fig. 2)
Well, now you
H

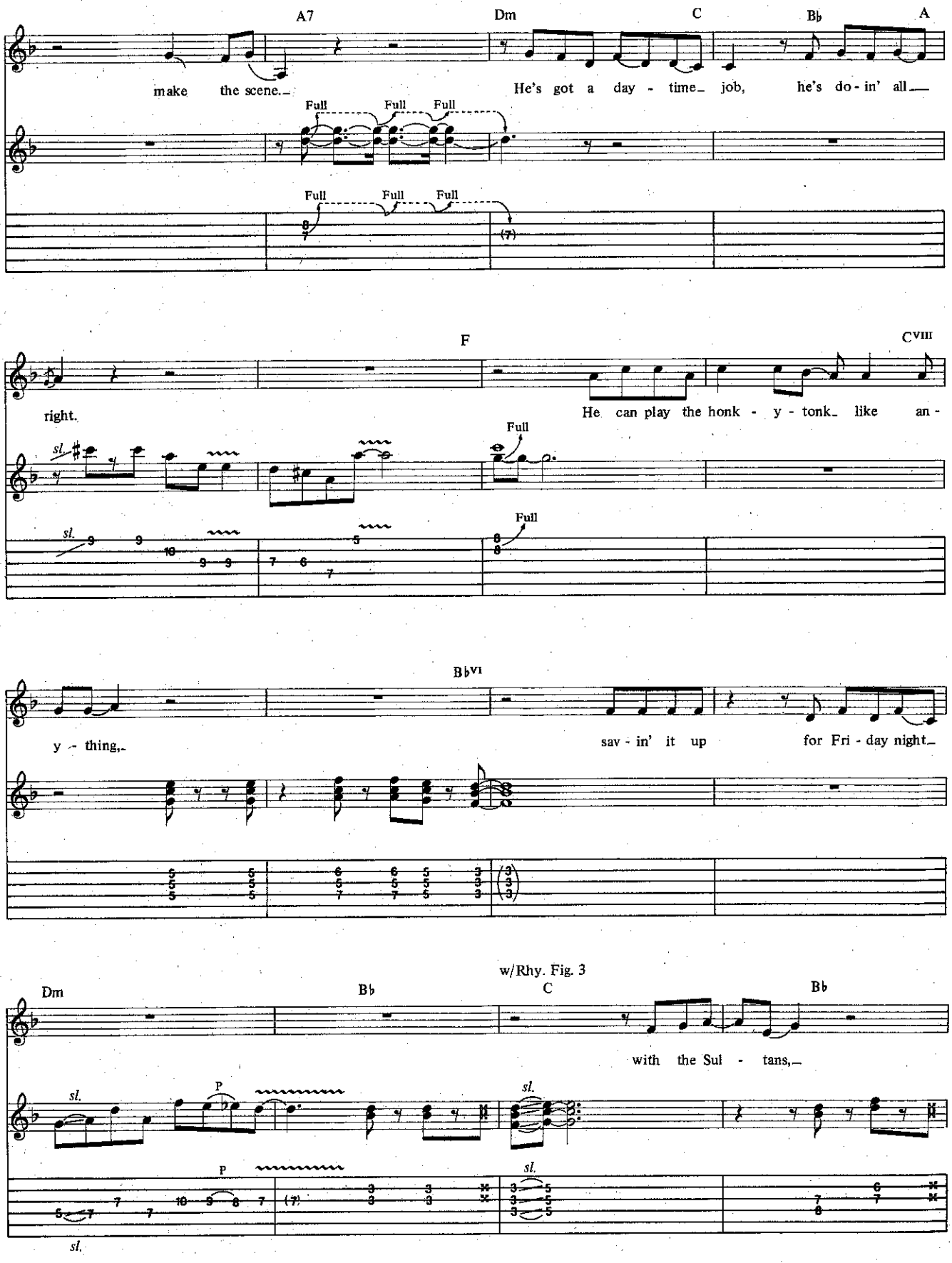
2nd Verse
w/Rhy.Fig.2 (1st 16 bars only)

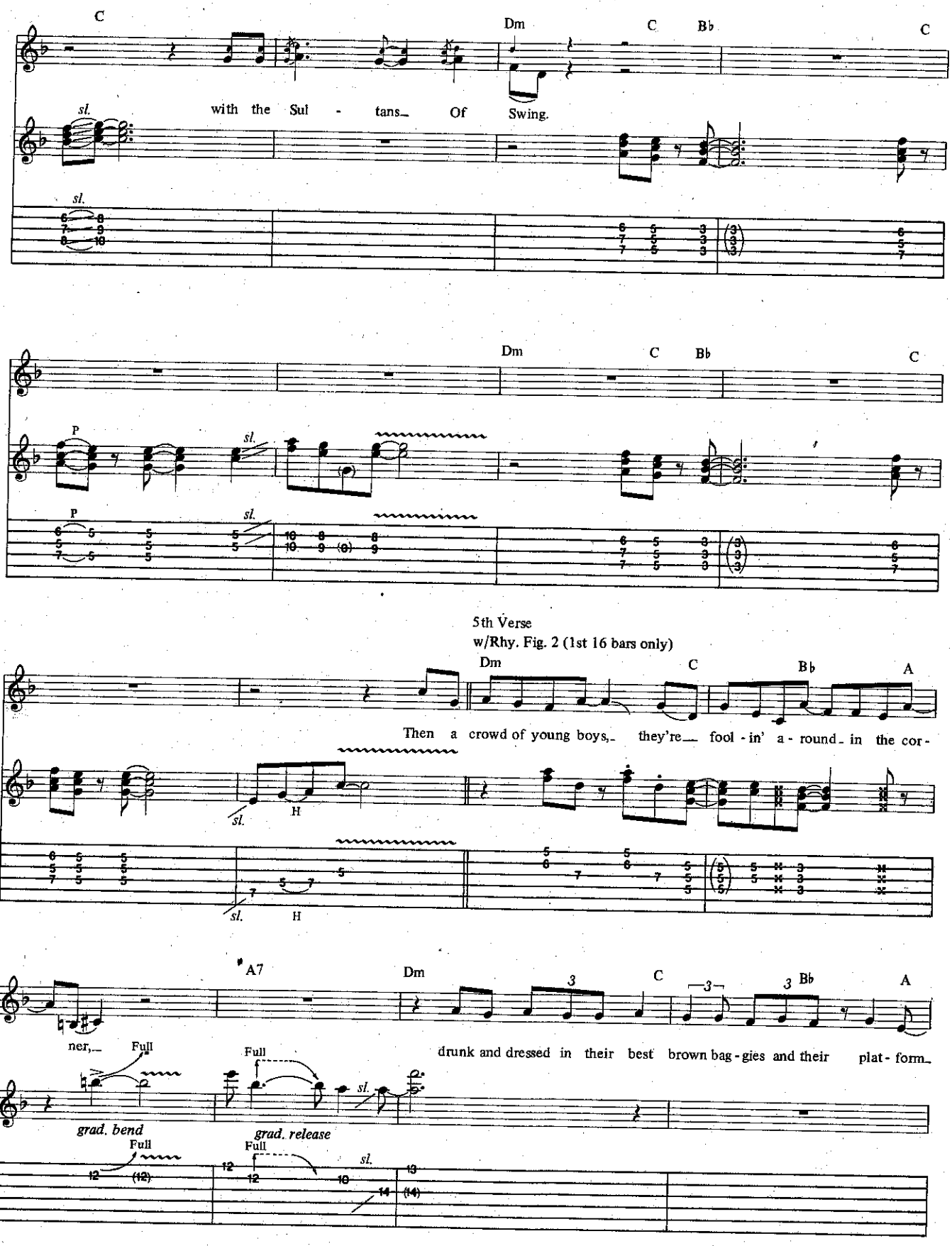


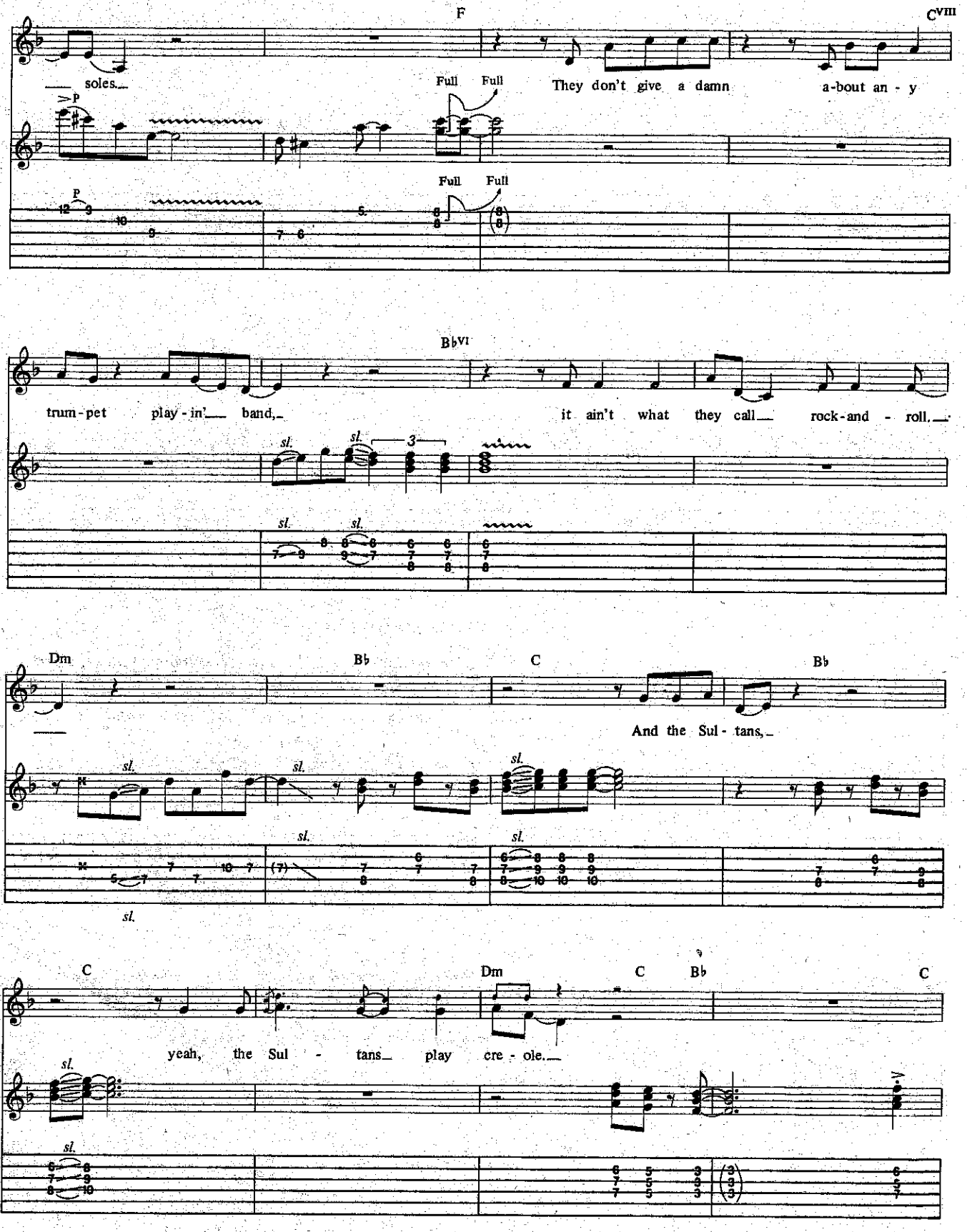
Rhy. Fig. 3

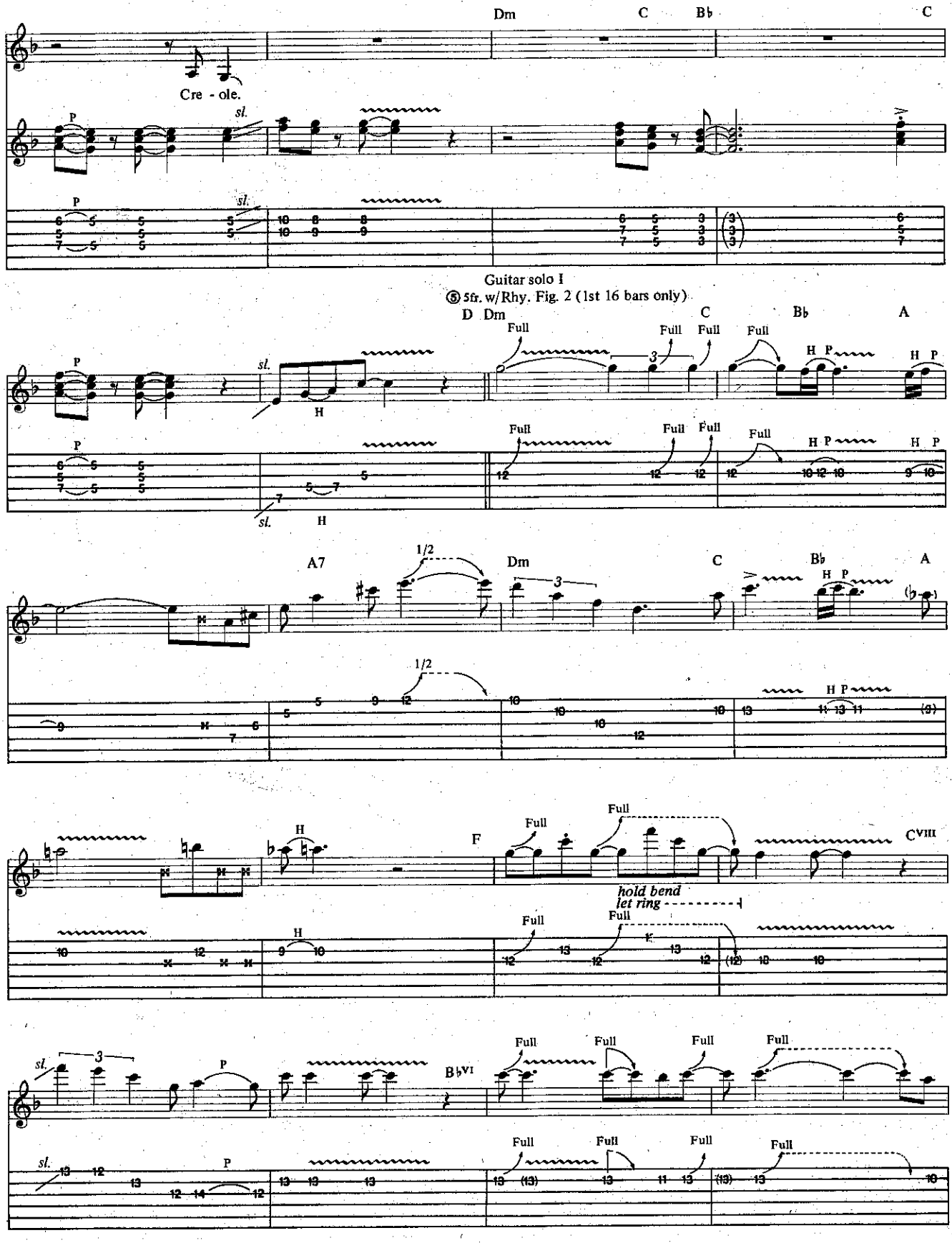

C
B♭
C
Way on down south,
way on down south,
Dm
C
B♭
C
Lon - don town.
P
sl.
(end Rhy. Fig. 3)
⑤ 5fr.
Dm
C
B♭
C
D
You check out
3rd Verse
w/Rhy. Fig. 2
Dm
C
B♭
A
A7
Gui - tar George,
he knows all the chords,

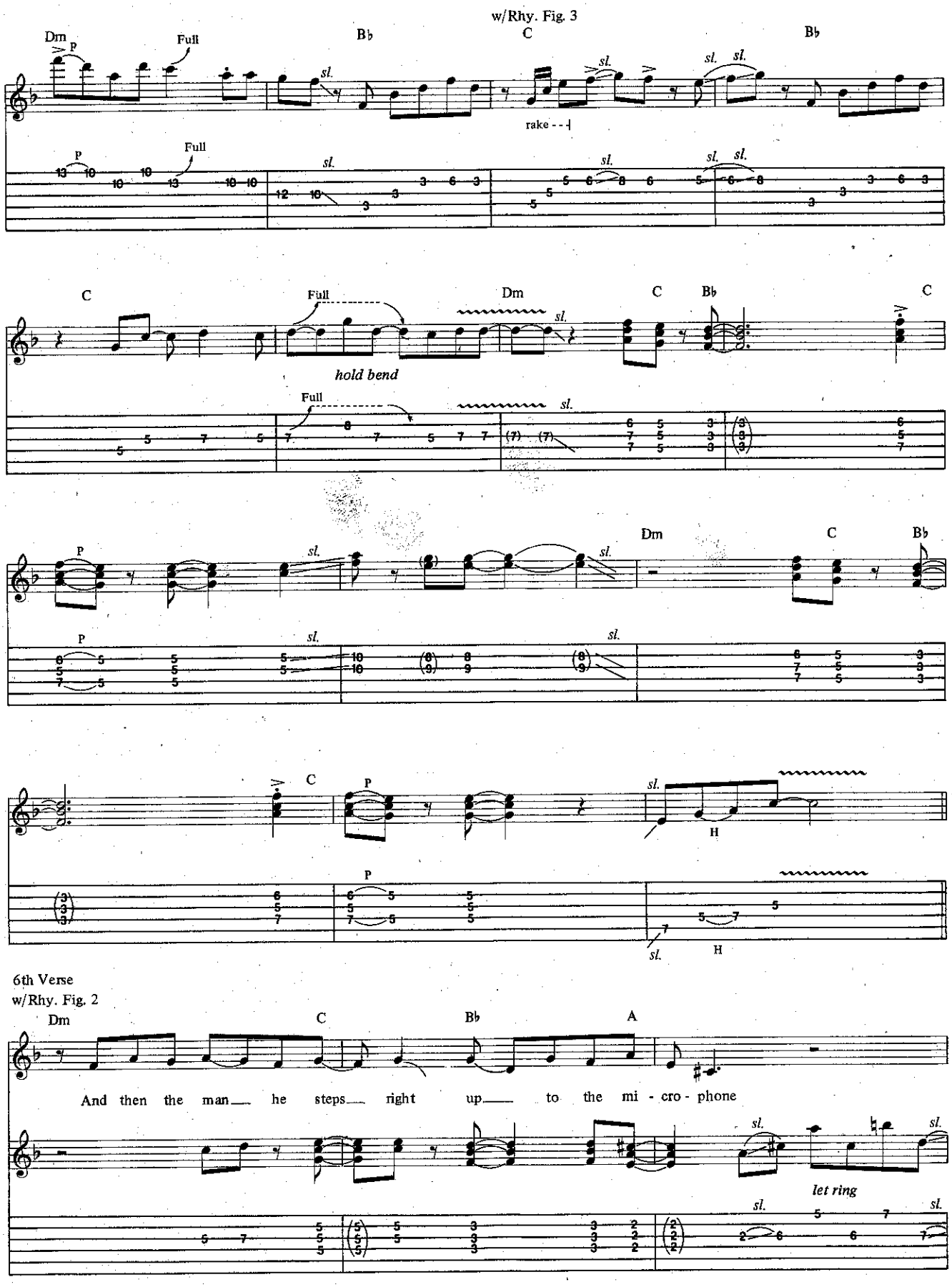

Dm
C
B♭
A
F
but it's strict - ly rhy - thm, he does - n't want to make it cry___ or sing.
Full
Full
Full
Full
Full
Full
hold bend
C VIII
B♭VI
They said an old gui - tar___ is___ all___ he can af - ford___
Full
P
sl.
3
Full
P
sl.
Dm
B♭
when he gets up un - der the lights___ to play his thing.
sl.
sl.
4th Verse
w/Rhy. Fig. 2 (1st 16 bars only)
C
Dm
C
B♭
A
And Har - ry does - n't mind___ if he does - n't
sl.
H
sl.
sl.
sl.
H
sl.

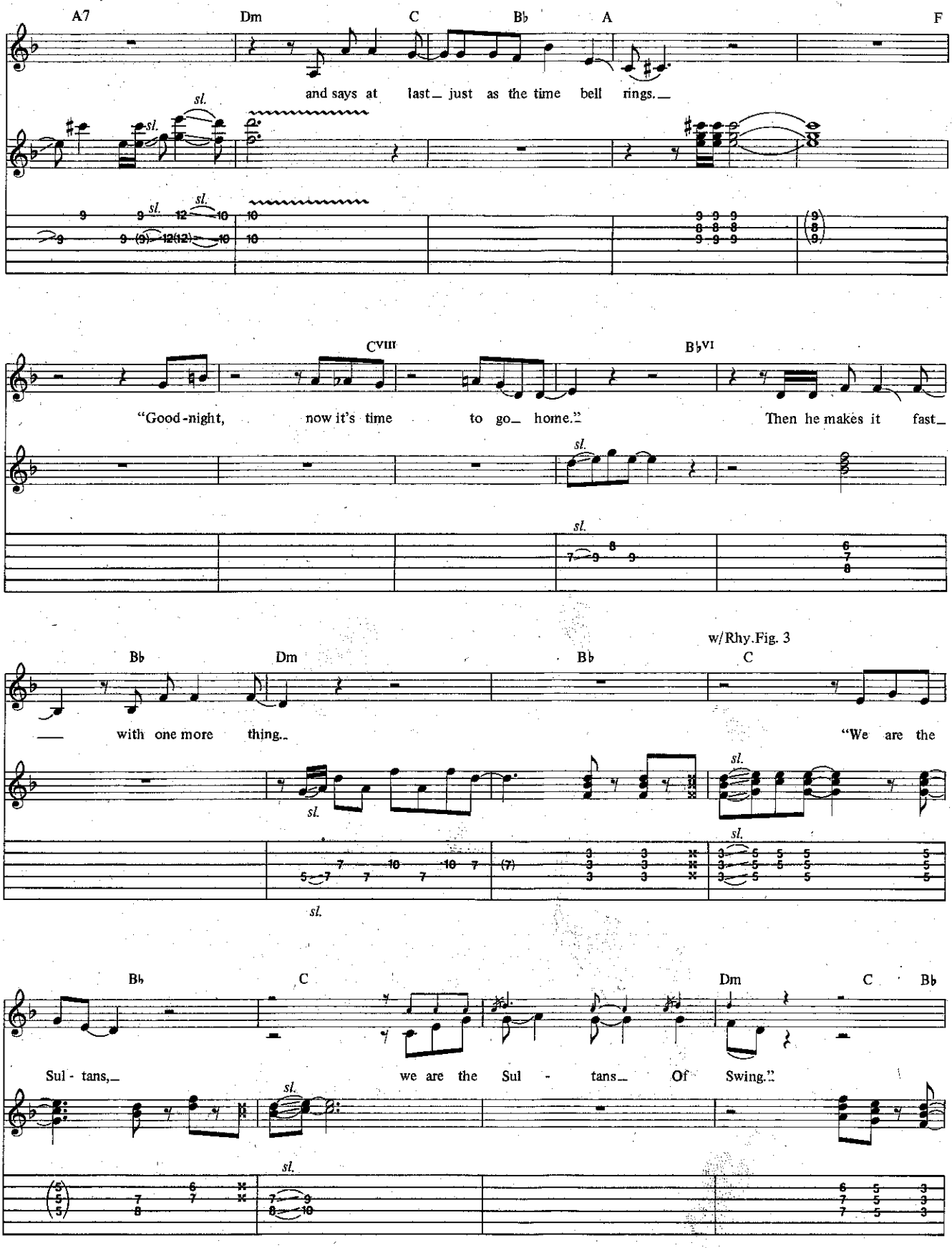

A7
Dm
C
B♭
A
make the scene.
He's got a day - time job, he's do - in' all
Full Full Full
Full Full Full
F
C VIII
right.
He can play the honk - y - tonk like an -
sl.
Full
B♭ VI
y - thing,
sav - in' it up
for Fri - day night
w/Rhy. Fig. 3
Dm
B♭
C
B♭
with the Sul - tans,
P

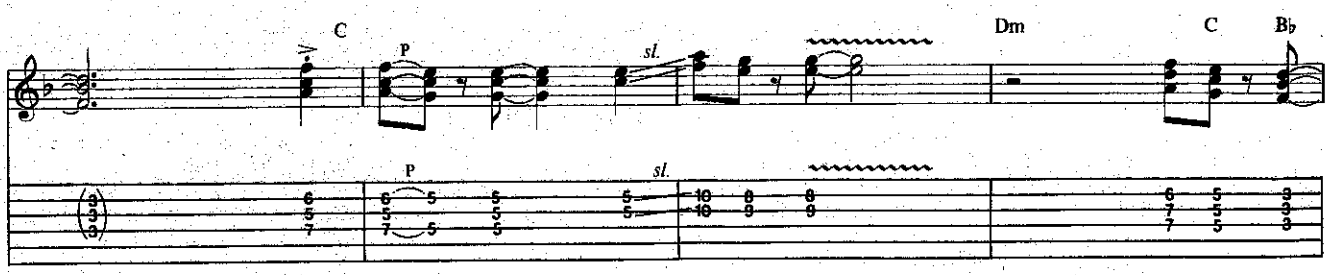

C
Dm
C
B♭
C
sl.
with the Sul - tans_ Of Swing.
sl.
Dm
C
B♭
C
P
sl.
P
sl.
5th Verse
w/Rhy. Fig. 2 (1st 16 bars only)
Dm
C
B♭
A
Then a crowd of young boys,_ they're__ fool - in' a - round_ in the cor -
sl.
H
sl.
H
A7
Dm
C
B♭
A
ner,__
Full
Full
drunk and dressed in their best brown bag - gies and their plat - form_
sl.
grad. bend
grad. release
Full
Full
sl.

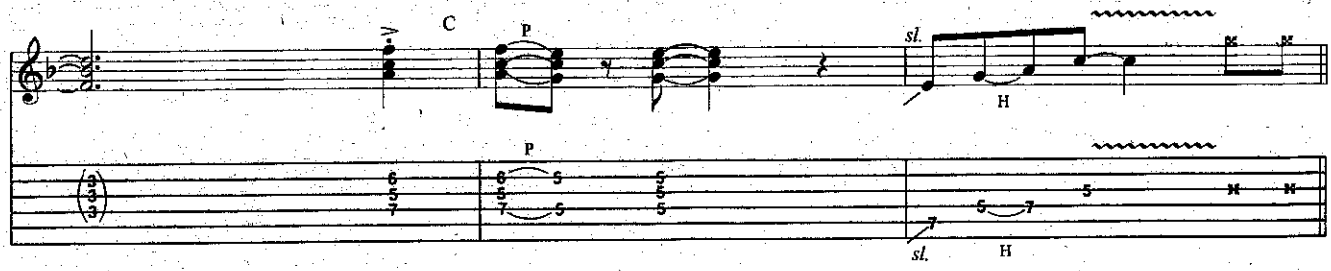

F
C VIII
soles
Full Full
They don't give a damn
a-bout an - y
Full Full
B♭ VI
trum - pet play - in' band,
it ain't what they call rock-and - roll.
sl.
Dm
B♭
C
B♭
And the Sul - tans,
C
Dm
C
B♭
C
yeah, the Sul - tans play cre - ole.


Dm
C
B♭
C
Cre - ole.
sl.
P
Guitar solo I
⑤ 5fr. w/Rhy. Fig. 2 (1st 16 bars only)
D Dm
C
B♭
A
Full
H P
H
A7
Dm
1/2
F
hold bend
let ring
C VIII
B♭ VI

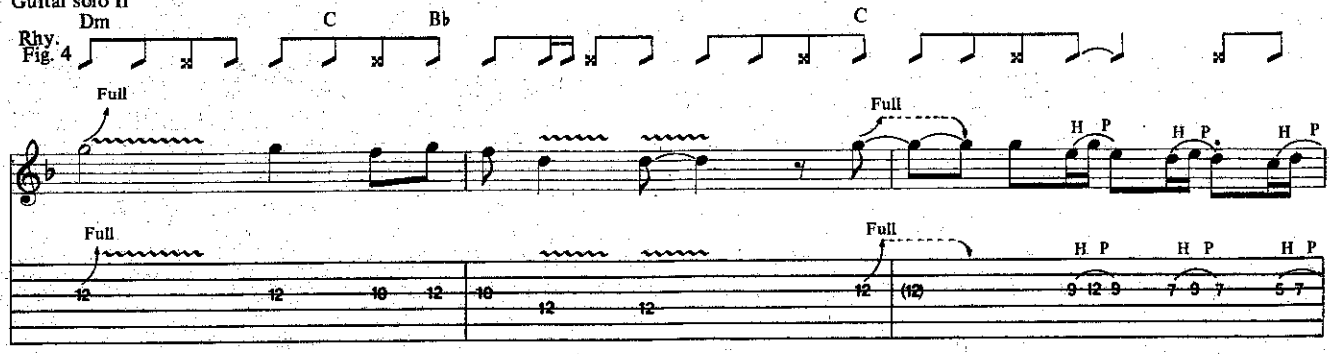

w/Rhy. Fig. 3
Dm
Full
B♭
C
B♭
rake
C
Full
Dm
C
B♭
C
hold bend
Dm
C
B♭
C
H
6th Verse
w/Rhy. Fig. 2
Dm
C
B♭
A
And then the man he steps right up to the mi - cro - phone
let ring


A7
Dm
C
B♭
A
F
and says at last_ just as the time bell rings._
sl.
CVIII
B♭VI
"Good-night, now it's time to go_ home."
Then he makes it fast_
B♭
Dm
B♭
w/Rhy.Fig. 3
C
with one more thing._
"We are the
B♭
C
Dm
C
B♭
Sul - tans,_
we are the Sul - tans_ Of Swing."

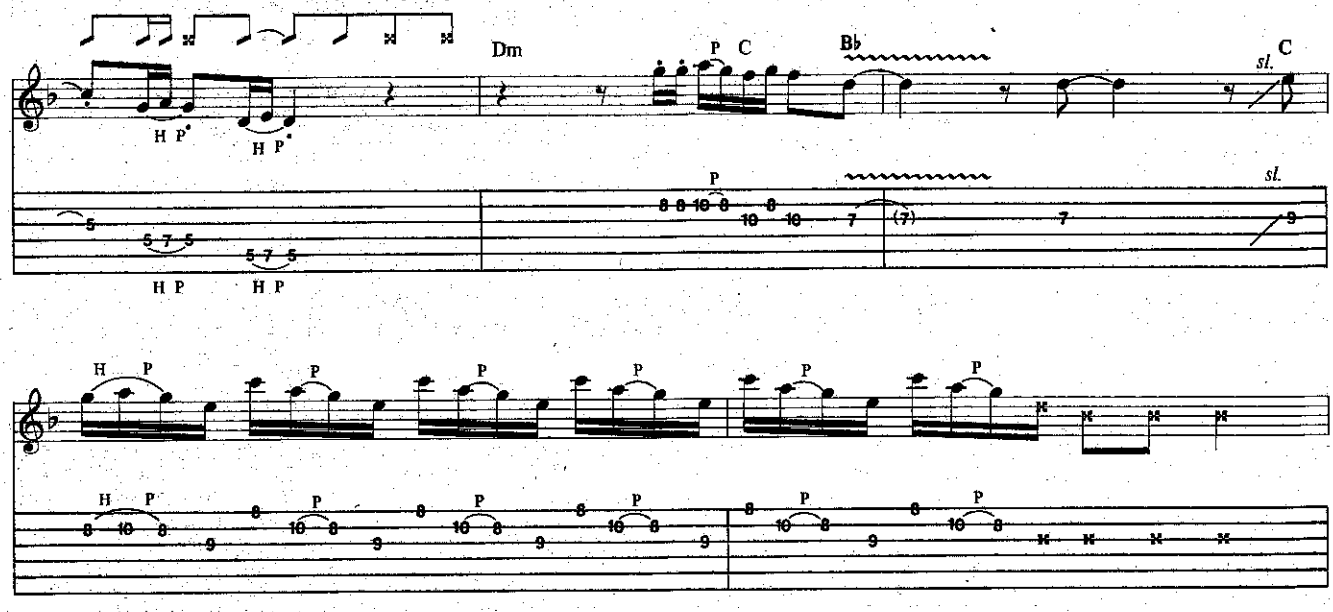


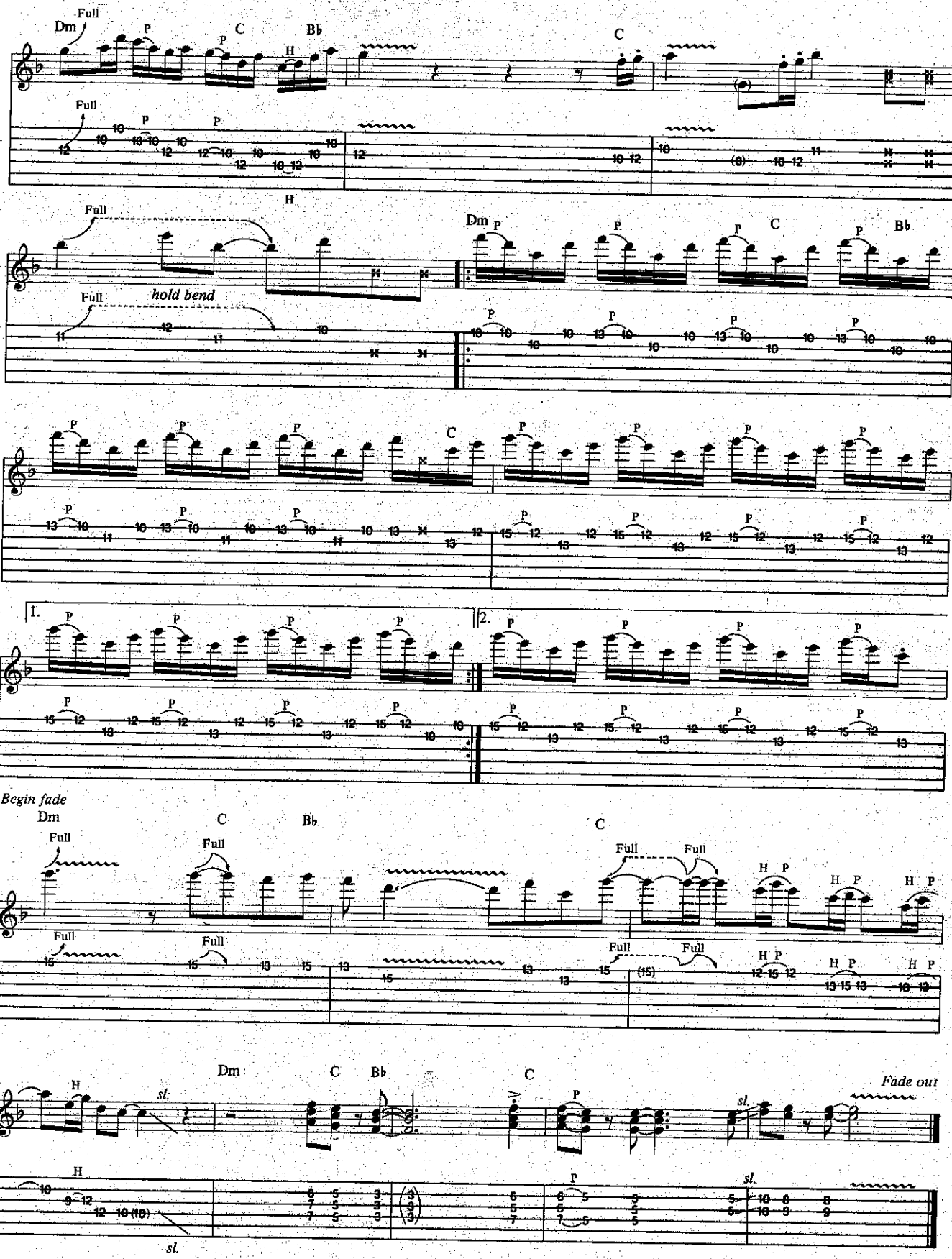


Outro
Guitar solo II



(end Rhy. Fig. 4) w/Rhy.Fig. 4*(till fade)*




Dm
Full
P
C
Bb
H
hold bend
1.
2.
Begin fade
sl.
Fade out