

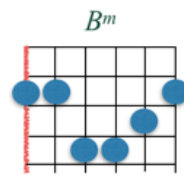
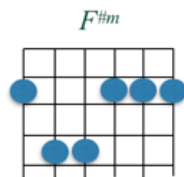
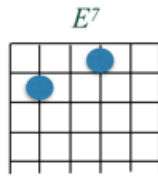
# Man of Constant Sorrow

Richard, Dick Burnett © 1913 all rights reserved

*A* *E7* *A*  
I am a man of constant sorrow;  
*F#m* *Bm*

I have seen trouble all my days.  
*E7* *A*

I'll say goodbye to Colorado;  
*A* *F#m* *Bm* *E7*  
Where I was born and partly raised.



*E7* *A*  
Through this sad world I'm a-bound to travel;  
*F#m* *Bm*  
Through ice and snow, sleet and rain.

*E7* *A*  
All pleasures found on earth unravel;  
*A* *F#m* *Bm* *E7*  
So many friends just fade away.

*E7* *A*  
Oh, fare you well to my native country;  
*F#m* *Bm*  
The place that I have loved so well.

*E7* *A*  
Yet I have found worry and trouble;  
*A* *F#m* *Bm* *E7*  
In this vain world no tongue can tell.

*E7* *A*  
Dear friends, though I may be a stranger;  
*F#m* *Bm*  
My face you'll never see no more.

*E7* *A*  
But there is one promise that is given;  
*A* *F#m* *Bm*  
I'll meet you on God's golden shore.

## Lead

1. *E* major (inside scale) but do not use a *D#*/*Eb*, instead, use the *D*
2. Use *F#* pentatonic too (just a little because it's too happy)

# History

“**Man of Constant Sorrow**” is a real life reflection of a bluegrass musician from Kentucky in the early part of the 20th century. He was miner and logger who was robbed, shot and ended up blind. His only means of income was his music.



Kentucky bluegrass fiddler, Richard Dick Burnett wrote “**Man of Constant Sorrow**” in 1913. Burnett, interviewed late in life, couldn't remember whether he had written the tune, saying: "No, I think I got that ballad from somebody. I dunno. It may be my song.”

The song was originally titled "Farewell Song" in a songbook by Burnett dated to around 1913. An early version was recorded by Emry Arthur in 1928, which gave the song its current titles.

There exist a number of versions of the song that differ in their lyrics and melodies.

The tune was made famous by Ralph Stanley and the Stanley Brothers in 1950, Bob Dylan and Waylon Jennings in the 60s and 70s, and Alison Krauss in 2000.

*from [robynscorner.949starcountry.com/](http://robynscorner.949starcountry.com/), <http://mentalfloss.com/> by Chris Higgins, June 16, 2012, <http://www.bobdylanroots.com/>, [History In Song](#)*