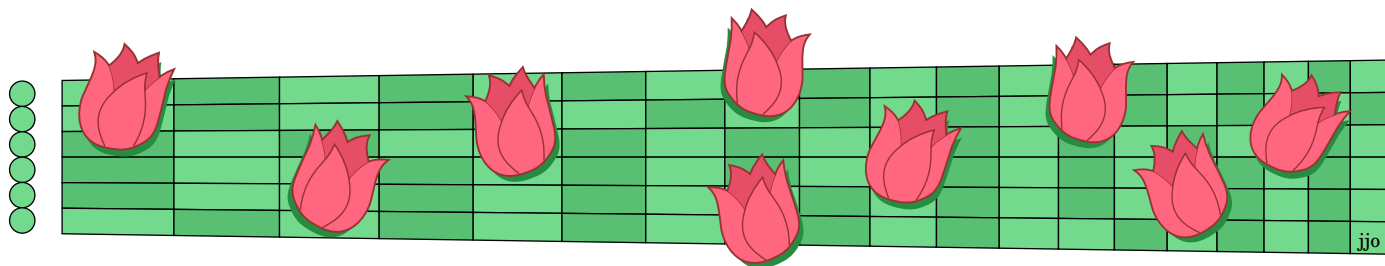


# April Fretboard Exercises

## Sightread, Thru' the Tulips, With Me



Note that it's cutting time for tulips: 

**Exercise 1:** I 2 II 2 III 6 IV 6 V 5 VI 6 VII 2 ⑤

Exercise 1 is a sightreading exercise in C major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 60 bpm. It consists of 32 measures. The first four measures are marked with a 'C' (cutting time) symbol. The exercise is divided into four systems of eight measures each. The notes are: I 2 II 2 III 6 IV 6 V 5 VI 6 VII 2 ⑤.

**Exercise 2:** I 0 II 2 III 4 IV 2 V 3 VI 5 VII 1 VIII 4 IX 1 X 4 XI 5 ④

Exercise 2 is a sightreading exercise in C major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 108 bpm. It consists of 32 measures. The first four measures are marked with a 'C' (cutting time) symbol. The exercise is divided into four systems of eight measures each. The notes are: I 0 II 2 III 4 IV 2 V 3 VI 5 VII 1 VIII 4 IX 1 X 4 XI 5 ④.

Exercise 1 . . . . .	Burke(1929): Tip-Toe Thru' The Tulips With Me . . . . .	1
Exercise 2 . . . . .	Wenrich(1914): When You Wore A Tulip . . . . .	1

### ***Tulips in Cut Time***

Maybe it's the word "tulip" in the lyrics, but both of these old tunes happen to be in cut time where they wind up being syncopated. That should add some rhythmic interest to your sightreading.

**Exercise 1** in the late 1960's became the signature song for Tiny Tim, known for his falsetto and tremolo, though it was originally popularized by guitarist Nick Lucas. If you're curious to hear it sung in a lower voice, listen to the recording of Helen Shapiro on the Ed Sullivan show, but that doesn't make it any better.

- *Tip-toe to the window, by the window, that's where I'll be,  
Come tip-toe thru the tulips with me.  
Tip-toe from your pillow, to the shadow, of a willow tree,  
And tip-toe thru the tulips with me.  
Knee deep in flowers we'll stray.  
We'll keep the showers away.  
And if I kiss you in the garden, in the moonlight, will you pardon me?  
Come tip-toe thru the tulips with me.*
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiny\\_Tim\\_\(musician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiny_Tim_(musician))
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9TtUjZVTJQ> (Tiny Tim, 1968)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrWe3Nc2tCQ> (on Rowan & Martin, 1968)
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_OB5BXYWW0&t=59s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OB5BXYWW0&t=59s) (Nick Lucas, 1929)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-LeQX3kaRQ> (Helen Shapiro, 1964)

**Exercise 2** is a bit easier as a sightread and is playable in lots of positions. It's quite easy in first position and also fun in seventh and ninth positions. For a challenge, try it just using the D string. Remember: two beats per measure!

- *When you wore a tulip, a sweet yellow tulip, and I wore a big red rose,  
When you caressed me, 'twas then Heaven blessed me, what a blessing no one knows.  
You made life cheery, when you called me dearie, 'twas down where the blue grass grows.  
Your lips were sweeter than julep, when you wore that tulip, and I wore a big red rose.*
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy\\_Wenrich](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy_Wenrich)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sa-ozT8nQu8&t=44s> (American Quartet, 1914)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1uVYkk8PRJc&t=60s> (Judy Garland, 1942)
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tseXC\\_NYlCg&t=47s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tseXC_NYlCg&t=47s) (Chris Barber Jazz, 2012)

*These exercises are from the yet to be released books "Diatonic Fretboard Exercises", and "Chromatic Fretboard Exercises", which together contain over two thousand such exercises and will be made available for free on IMSLP. The contents may be freely copied and modified, but with the condition that they be attributed to J. J. Olson (CC-BY license).*

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