

Chinese Breakdown

Anon

Musical score for "Chinese Breakdown" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. Chord symbols D, A, and D are placed above the first, fourth, and eighth measures respectively. The second staff has chord symbols D, G, A, and D above the first, fourth, sixth, and eighth measures. The third staff has chord symbols D, A, and D above the first, fifth, and ninth measures. The fourth staff has chord symbols D, G, A, and D above the first, fourth, sixth, and eighth measures. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

Notes: The 1st part is related to a nursery rhyme.

There are many variants available on the Web. Here is one.

"Susie had a baby, She called it Tiny Tim"

"She put it in the bathtub to see if it could swim"

"He drank up all the water, he ate up all the soap"

"He tried to eat the bathtub but it wouldn't go down his throat"

Chinese Breakdown is also related to the Looney Tunes theme tune,

"The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down" written in 1937 by Cliff Friend and Dave Franklyn

History: The origins of this tune are not clear.

It was first recorded in 1925 by the "Dixie String Band" and by others since.