358 Why Do Fools Fall in Love? 1956
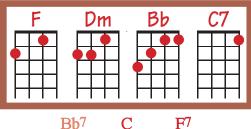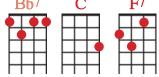
Frankie Lymon and The Teenagers

At age 13 Frankie Lymon was a backup singer for The Premiers. The group was rehearsing in the hallway of an apartment building when one of the residents gave them a collection of love letters written in verse form by his girlfriend. They read them all, chose "Why Do Birds Sing So Gay," and put it to music. The song became "Why Do Fools Fall in Love." The Premiers became the Teenagers when they went into the studio to record the song with Jimmy Wright and his band (Wright suggested the new name). The single was released in January 1956. The group was not notified that it was released -- they found out when a group member heard a classmate singing it at school. The Teenagers hit #6 with the song. Frankie Lymon and The Teenagers led the way for young black singing groups like The Jackson 5. As a huge talent thrust into the spotlight at a very young age, Lymon was a lot like Michael Jackson. Frankie Lyman died of a heroin overdose at age 26.

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz   September 2004
and as a GREATEST HIT on DooWop Night
August 2005

Intro

F   Dm   Bb   C7   F   Dm   Bb   C7   F   Dm   Bb   C7
Oo - wah, Oo - wah,   Oo - wah, Oo - wah,   Oo - wah, Oo - wah
F
Why do fools ...   fall in love?

Verse

F   Dm   Bb C7   F   Dm
Why do birds sing   so gay
        Bb   C7   F   Dm
and lovers await the break of day?
Bb   C7   F   Dm Bb   C7
Why do they fall in love?
F   Dm Bb   C7   F   Dm
Why....   does the rain, fall from up above?
Bb   C7   F   Dm
Why do fools fall in love?
Bb   C7   F
Why do they fall in love?

Bb   (Bb7)   F   F7
Love is a losing game, and love can be a shame,
Bb   (Bb7)   C7   C
I know of a fool you see, for that fool is me
        F Dm Bb C7   F Dm Bb C7   F Dm Bb
Tell me why....   ah ha hi   ah ha hi
C7   F   C7
Tell me why

... sing through Verse again and then end with...

Bb   (Bb7)   F   F7
Why does my heart   skip with crazy beats
Bb (Bb7)   C7   C
for I know...   it will it will reach defeat
        F Dm Bb C7   F Dm Bb C7   F Dm Bb
Tell me why....   ah ha hi   ah ha hi
C7   F   F   C7   F (E) F
Tell me why,   Why..... do fools....... fall in love?