

# STORMY WEATHER 567



**HAROLD ARLEN AND TED KOEHLER**  
(WITH RUTH ETTRING) 1933

The Cotton Club was the place to be in Harlem in the late 20's and early 30's. Aristocrats poured into the pricey club with a \$3 cover charge to hear the bands of Cab Calloway and Duke Ellington and to watch other celebrity talents of the time, while sipping back beverages banned by the Prohibition.

Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler wrote music for the Club from 1930 to 1934. While at a party in 1933, Arlen and Koehler created yet another hit tune for the Club. With Cab Calloway in mind for the song, Harold opened the song with what he calls a "front shout." In as little as half an hour, he and Koehler had completed their respective ends of the collaboration and, relieved to have one more tune out of the way, left the party to get a sandwich. Thus, simply and without fanfare, the unforgettable "Stormy Weather" was created. However, Calloway was not signed for the 1933 Cotton Club Parade, so Ethel Waters was slated to sing "Stormy Weather" instead. An RCA Victor recording of "Stormy Weather" performed by the Leo Reisman Orchestra stirred such interest in the song, that by opening night of the 1933 Parade crowds of New York elites gathered just to hear Ethel Waters sing the new song. Harold Arlen also performed it at Radio City Music Hall in May 1933.

The Judy Garland at Carnegie Hall version is done in the same key as this (simplified) version. Listen to it, and lots of other great performances of this timeless song for inspiration!

- Arlen and Koehler wrote dozens of songs together including
- Between The Devil And The Deep Blue Sea - 1931
  - Get Happy - 1930
  - I Gotta Right To Sing The Blues - 1932
  - I Love A Parade - 1931
  - I've Got The World On A String - 1932
  - Let's Fall In Love - 1934
- and
- Stormy Weather - 1933

AN INTRO: CMa7 /// EM7-5 /// Dm7 /// G7 ///  
CMa7 /// Am7 /// Dm7 /// G7 ///

CMa7 EM7-5 Dm7 G7  
DONT KNOW WHY THERES NO SUN UP IN THE SKY  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7  
STORMY WEATHER SINCE MY MAN AND I AINT...  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7 CMa7  
TOGETHER KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME  
(CMa7) Am7 Dm7 G7

CMa7 EM7-5 Dm7 G7  
LIFE IS BARE, GLOOM AND MISERY EVERYWHERE  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7  
STORMY WEATHER JUST CANT GET MY POOR SELF  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7 CMa7  
TOGETHER IM WEARY ALL THE TIME  
(CMa7) Am7 Dm7 G7 C  
SO WEARY ALL THE TIME

Dm G7 C Am  
WHEN HE WENT AWAY THE BLUES WALKED IN AND MET ME  
Dm G7 C Am  
IF HE STAYS AWAY OLD ROCKIN' CHAIR WILL GET ME  
Dm G7 C A7 D7 G7  
ALL I DO IS PRAY, THE LORD ABOVE WILL LET ME WALK IN THE SUN ONCE MORE

CMa7 EM7-5 Dm7 G7  
CANT GO ON, EVERY THING I HAD IS GONE  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7  
STORMY WEATHER SINCE MY MAN AND I AINT...  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7 CMa7  
TOGETHER KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7 CMa7  
KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME  
CMa7 Am7 Dm7 G7 CMa7  
KEEPS RAININ' ALL THE TIME

