

Ukulele Central

Words - Chris Leslie

Music - Ric Sanders

Landing in 1879
At Honolulu in a bag
The 23rd of August
On a ship called the Ravenscrag
Fernandez he was grateful
To make dry land again
So he played on a little guitar he'd brought from
Spain

2.

It caught on with the local boys
On white sands by the sea
Beautiful Hawaiian melodies
Plucking G C A and E
Some were built by Manuel Nunes
And August Dias as well
At a store in Honolulu they'd just sell

CHORUS

A ukulele you can have a ukulele
With a ukulele you can go far
On a boat or a train, in the sun or the rain
It could even make you a star

3.

The Panama Canal was finished
San Fransisco held a ball
The uke arrived from Hawaii
And was heard by one and all
"On The Beach At Waikiki"
Was the best known song of them all
Everywhere it played, a ukulele craze was born

4.

Tin Pan Alley came on the scene
Writing novelty songs

Everybody started buying ukes
Joining in and strumming along
On a Regal or a Martin
Harmony or TV Pal
Even played by Betty Grable - Oh what a gal

CHORUS

5.

The voice of Jiminy Cricket
Was a ukulele player so fine
Konter flew one to the North Pole
Lyle Ritz played jazz for a time
George Formby a Wigan Hero
Tiny Tim was singing so high
Now The Ukulele "O" of GB spreads its fame far and
wide

INSTRUMENTAL VERSE

6.

George and Paul and Joe Brown
Viv Stanshall, Lucile Ball
Blue Hawain Elvis
Roy Smeck and Wendell Hall
Lesley Sarony
And Arthur Godfrey could be seen
Not forgetting the Ukulele Lady Queen - May Singhi
Breen

6.

So what are you waiting for
It's better than riches and wealth
Strumming just takes those blues away
It should be part of the National Health
Take time to tune and to ponder
May a song make your day just a breeze
Take a uke in hand, may all your dogs have fleas

CHORUS X 2

