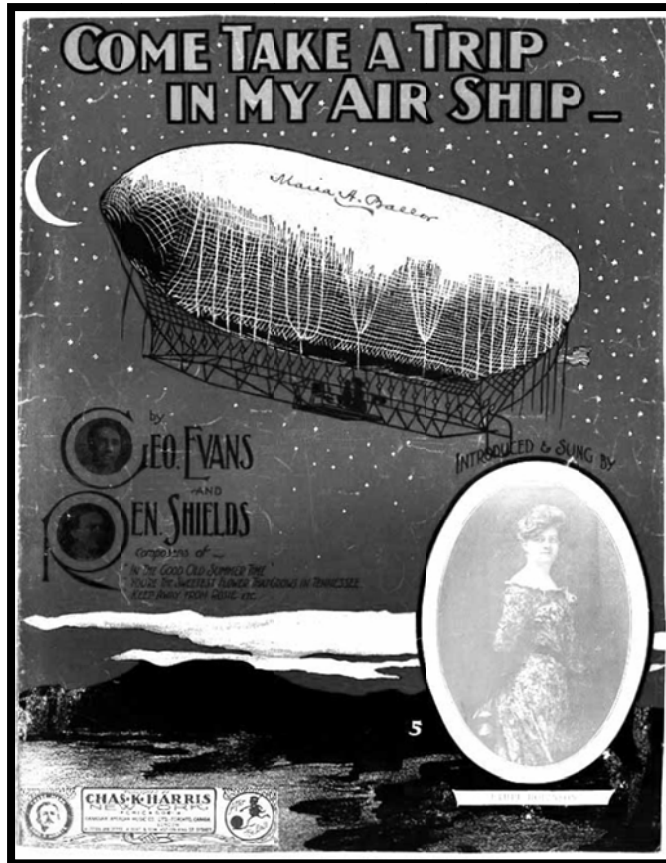


COME TAKE A TRIP IN MY AIRSHIP

George Evans, Music; Ren Shields, Lyrics; 1904

This three-part 'Tin Pan Alley' tune was written in 1904, during the 'Golden Age' of airships, also known as dirigibles or blimps. Having been around in concept since the late 1700's, the launch of Count von Zeppelin's LZ1 craft in July 1900 captured the interest and imagination of people everywhere.



Following the success of their song, "*In the Good Old Summertime*", two years earlier. George Evans & Ren Shields had been working on the melody for a new waltz. When Shields saw the article about the new Zeppelin airships, he came up with the romanticized notion of "taking one out for a spin". The song had modest success, but suffered in later years with the occurrence of several airship disasters. Evans & Shields went on to write many other popular tunes, such as, "*In the Merry Month of May*".

"*Come Take a Trip in My Airship*" fell into obscurity until the early 1930's, when it was recorded by Charlie Poole & the North Carolina Ramblers, and several others since that time, such as Johnny Cash. I first heard the tune on a recording by Sally Rogers and Claudia Schmidt entitled "*Closing the Distance*".

The "verse" & "chorus" are nearly identical, so I arranged them in two different octaves, and they can be played in unison. The backup part adds a few additional "color chords" that can be used to fill out either of the other two parts.

~Tull