SONG SHEET NOTES

I derived the chord positions for this old standard by watching a video of Michael Johnson’s perform his great arrangement during a sound check (link below).


Most covers of this oft-recorded song feature only one verse, but I’ve added one I found on the web to give it a bit more length and have also added some alternate chords shapes for that second verse.

I have neither the patience nor skill to write tablature so it is up to the player to figure out what the picking hand is to do.

It is my hope that, at the least, this document could serve as a starting point for someone wanting to play the wonderful songs that Michael Johnson gave to us.

Sincerely,

Paul Ashley
TENNESSEE WALTZ
Redd Stewart & Pee Wee King

INTRO (play at start of verses 1 and 2)

VERSE

1. I was dancin' with my darlin' to the Ten - nes - see Waltz
2. Now I wonder how a dance like the Ten - nes - see Waltz

1. When an old friend I happened to see.
2. Could have broken my heart so complete.

1. I introduced him to my darlin' and while they were dancin'
2. Well I couldn't blame my darlin', and who could help fallin'

1. My friend stole my sweet heart from me.
2. In love with my darlin' so sweet.

CHORUS

1. I remember the night and the Ten - nes - see Waltz
2. Well it must be the fault of the Ten - nes - see Waltz
3. I remember the night and the Ten - nes - see Waltz

1. Now I know just how much I have lost.
2. Wish I'd known just how much it would cost.
3. 'cause I know just how much I have lost.

1. Yes, I lost my little darlin' the night they were playing cryin'.
2. But I didn't see it comin'. It's all blame it all on the Tennessee Waltz.

INTERLUDE

(to Chorus 3 and Coda)
**INTRO**

I was dancin' with my darlin' to the Tennessee Waltz
When an old friend I happened to see.
I introduced him to my darlin' and while they were dancin'
My friend stole my sweetheart from me.

I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz
Now I know just how much I have lost
Yes, I lost my little darlin' the night they were playin'
That beautiful Tennessee Waltz

**INTRO**

Now I wonder how dancin' to the Tennessee Waltz
Could have shattered a love oh so fine.
Well I couldn't blame my darlin', and who could help fallin'
In love with that sweetheart of mine?

Well it must be the fault of the Tennessee Waltz
Wish I'd known just how much it would cost
Since I lost my little darlin' evry night I've been sayin'
Blame it all on the Tennessee Waltz

**INTERLUDE**

I remember the night and the Tennessee Waltz
Cause I know just how much I have lost
Yes I lost my little darlin' the night they were playin'
That beautiful Tennessee Waltz.
That beautiful Tennessee Waltz.

*Additional verses by Leonard Cohen and possibly sung live by Emmylou Harris:*

Now I wonder how a dance like the Tennessee Waltz
Could have broken my heart so complete
Well I couldn't blame my darlin', and who could help fallin'
In love with my darlin' so sweet

She goes dancin' with the darkness to the Tennessee Waltz
And I feel like I'm falling apart
And it's stronger than drink and it's deeper than sorrow
This darkness she left in my heart

Alternate second chorus:

Well it must be the fault of the Tennessee Waltz
Wish I'd known just how much it would cost
But I didn't see it comin', it's all over but the cryin'
Blame it all on the Tennessee Waltz

Now I wonder how dancin' to the Tennessee Waltz
Could have broken my heart so complete.
I couldn't blame my sweetheart, and who could help fallin'
In love with my darling' so sweet.