

# ALL AROUND THIS WORLD

## 2. La Guacamaya

**Country:** Mexico

**Language:** Spanish

**Genre on CD:** Son Jarocho

**Instruments on CD:** Jarana, Marimbula, Quijada, Requinto, Tarima



“La Guacamaya” on [AllAroundThisWorld.com](http://AllAroundThisWorld.com)
















### About the song:

"La Guacamaya" is a son jarocho standard from Veracruz in Mexico. A guacamaya is a parrot, and in the most widely sung original version (much like a version recently made popular by Los Lobos), the parrot is sad because he's hungry, yet he's able to fly away to a better place.

**About the genre:** Son jorocho is an Spanish/Creole/African musical fusion from Mexico's southern coastal plan area of Veracruz. The music is consciously repetitive and full of call and responses so community members can participate by singing, dancing and playing their instruments along with the band. San Jorocho musicians gather often in public festive musical and dance jams called "fandangos," during which all members of the community are welcome to participate in the music making. Often the musicians improvise lyrics based upon the rough outlines of a set of standard, well-known songs.

Introduction to son jarocho  Cambalache (son jarocho band)  son jarocho background  a fandango  performance of “La Guacamaya” 

### About the instruments:

Jarana: image  video  /Harp: image  video  video 2  video 3   
/Requinto: image  video  Marimbula: image  San jarocho sueno  (Marimbula appears at 2:48)/Tarima (a really cool wooden platform used as a percussion instrument during the song as dancers hit it with their dancing feet) : image  video 1   
image 2  /Quijada (a donkey jawbone): imag  video 

### Non-English words in our version:

*Pobrecita guacamaya* => poor little parrot  
*Vuela* => Fly



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C  
G7  
Pobrecita guacamaya, you're a hungry little bird

C  
You're a hungry little bird, pobrecita guacamaya

C  
G7  
(Pobrecita guacamaya, you're a hungry little bird

C  
You're a hungry little bird, pobrecita guacamaya)

C  
G7  
Pobrecita guacamaya, I will share my food with you

C  
If you only help me too, pobrecita guacamaya

C  
G7  
(Pobrecita guacamaya, I will share my food with you

C  
If you only help me too, pobrecita guacamaya)

Dancey

# LA GUACAMAYA

Country: Mexico  
Language: Spanish

Traditional  
Translation and Arrangement  
by Jay Sand

♩ = 180 C



Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, you're a hun - gry lit - tle bird;  
 Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, I will share my food with  
 Fly, fly, fly, would you teach me how to fly?  
 Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, we'll be sing - ing as we  
 Po - bre - ci - ta gua ca - ma - ya, would you teach me how to fly?  
 Veu - la vue - la, vue - la, we'll be sing - ing as we

4 G<sup>7</sup>



— you're a hun - gry lit - tle bird, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma  
 you, if you on - ly help me to, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma  
 — Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, we can leave the world be -  
 fly, pour our hearts out to the sky, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma  
 — we can leave the world be - hind, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma  
 fly, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, pour our hearts out to the

8 C



- ya. (Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, you're a hun - gry lit - tle bird;  
 - ya. (Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, I will share my food with  
 hind. (Fly, fly, fly, would you teach me how to fly?  
 - ya. (Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, we'll be sing - ing as we  
 - ya. (Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, would you teach me how to fly?  
 sky. (Vue - la, vue - la, vue - la, we'll be sing - ing as we

12 G<sup>7</sup>



— you're a hun - gry lit - tle bird, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya.)  
 you, if you on - ly help me to, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya.)  
 — Po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, we can leave the world be - hind.)  
 fly, pour our hearts out to the sky, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya.)  
 — we can leave the world be - hind, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya.)  
 fly, po - bre - ci - ta gua - ca - ma - ya, pour our hearts out to the sky.)



# **“La Guacamaya”**

**Pobrecito guacamaya,  
you're a hungry little bird**

**You're a hungry little bird  
pobrecito guacamaya**

**Vuela, vuela, vuela,  
can you teach me how to fly?**

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*(Mexico, Spanish)*