

# Amapola

(Pretty Little Poppy)

Words by Albert Gamse  
Music by Joseph M. Lacalle

No other band was built around its singers as much as Jimmy Dorsey's. And that was by accident. Furthermore, his singers, Bob Eberly and Helen O'Connell, had been with the band for several years when that accident happened. In 1939, Jimmy took on a radio series for Raleigh cigarettes. (In those days, cigarette companies were big big-band sponsors.) It was only a 15-minute show, and one of Dorsey's arrangers, Tutti Camarata,



worked out a plan to feature both singers. He would take a song, slow it down as a ballad for Bob, then speed it up and let Helen swing it. The formula was an immediate success. "Amapola" was their first hit and was followed by many others, including "Green Eyes" and "Brazil." Eberly was perhaps the most popular of all the big-band singers, Frank Sinatra included, with a rich, romantic baritone that won him most of the band-si. polls of 1939-42. It was his misfortune to be drafted into the Armed Forces at peak of his career, just after filming 'Fleet's In, in which he scored on "Tangine" with Helen and on "I Rememur You" with Dorothy Lamour. When B returned from the war, Sinatra, Dick Haymes and Perry Como had left the bands they sang with and become big singing stars on their own. Eberly found himself largely forgotten.

Jimmy Dorsey with Bob Eberly and Helen O'Connell

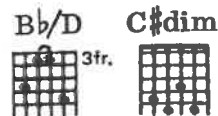
Moderate Latin feel

mp

A - ma -



po - la, My pret-ty lit-tle pop - py,



You're like that love-ly flow'r so sweet and

F7



heav-en - ly. Since I found you,

My heart is wrapped a-round you, And lov-ing you it

Bb



F7



seems to beat a rhap-so-dy. A - ma -

Bb



po - la, The pret-ty lit-tle pop - py



Must cop-y its en-dear-ing charm from

G7 Dm7 G7

you. A - ma - po - la, A - ma -

Cm Eb 6fr. Ebm 6fr.

po - la, How I long to hear you say "I

Bb/D 3fr. C7 F7

*loud*

1. Bb F7 2. Bb

love you." A - ma love you."