

# Waltzing With Bears

Words & Music by Dale Marxem,  
Robert L. Force, Albert d'Ossché  
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<sup>G</sup> My Uncle Walter goes waltzing with bears,  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
<sup>D</sup> it's a most unbearable state of affairs  
<sup>G</sup>

Every Saturday night he creeps down the back stairs,  
<sup>B MINOR</sup>  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup> <sup>D</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
sneaks out of the house and goes waltzing with bears

chorus <sup>G</sup> He goes wa-wa-wa-waltzing, waltzing with bears  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
<sup>D</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
raggy bears, baggy bears, shaggy bears, too

And there is nothing on earth Uncle Walter won't do  
<sup>B MINOR</sup>  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup> <sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
So he can go waltzing-- wa-wa-wa-waltzing  
<sup>C</sup> <sup>G</sup> <sup>D</sup> <sup>G</sup>  
so he can go waltzing, go waltzing with bears

I went to his room in the middle of the night,  
tiptoed upstairs and I turned on the light,  
But to my dismay, there was no one in sight,  
'cause, my Uncle Walter goes waltzing at night!

I bought Uncle Walter a new coat to wear,  
but when he comes in it's all covered with hair  
and lately we've noticed there's several new tears  
I'm sure Uncle Walter's been waltzing with bears

We asked Uncle walter "why won't you be good  
and do all the things that we say that you should?  
We know that you'd rather be off in the woods  
and we're afraid that we'll lose you, lose you for good."

We begged and we pleaded, "Oh please won't you stay?"  
and managed to keep him home for a day  
but the bears all barged in and they took him away...

Now he's dancing with pandas  
and we don't understand  
but the bears all demand  
at least one dance a day...

This tune was inspired by Dr. Seuss' *Uncle Terwilliger Waltzes with Bears*. New words and an adapatyaiion of the music were written by Dale Marxen, circa 1980. The song was collected and dispersed by Holly Tannen; final verse and hook was written at Talent, Oregon Kindred Gathering by Robert Force and Albert d'Ossché after Holly introduced it to them circa 1981. First recorded version by F/d'O, 1983-- Kicking Mule release lp: *When the Moon Fell on California*. The book, *Rise Up Singing*, published the version as written and recorded by F/d'O, but credited Theodore Geisel-- Dr. Seuss, as author; Dale Marxen as well as Eugene Poddany claim credit officially-- many other verses have since been added.