

## Bo Carter - Banana in Your Fruit Basket (1991)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Pig Meat Is What I Crave* 02. *What Kind Of Scent Is This?* 03. *Mashing That Thing* 04. *Blue Runner Blues* 05. *Howling Tom Cat Blues* 06. *Don't Mash My Digger So Deep* 07. *Pin In Your Cushion* 08. *Ramrod Daddy* 09. *All Around Man* [play](#) 10. *Pussy Cat Blues* 11. *My Pencil Won't Write No More* [pla](#)  
[y](#)  
12. *Ants In My Pants* 13. *Banana In Your Fruit Basket* 14. *Cigarette Blues*

Bo Carter is the alias for singer/guitarist Bo Chatmon, a member of the famous Chatmon family from Mississippi (which produced 13 musically capable children). Notorious for his double-entendre blues, Carter based his songs around sexual metaphors and the results were, unsurprisingly, widely popular. If there were such a thing as parental warning stickers in the 1930s, they would have been applied liberally to Carter's releases. On *Banana in Your Fruit Basket* (the companion to *Twist It Baby*), Yazoo brings together 14 more Carter sides from the 1930s. A cursory glance at track titles alone tells a great deal: "Mashing That Thing," "Don't Mash My Digger So Deep," "Pin in Your Cushion," "My Pencil Won't Write Anymore." The themes in Carter's music were certainly pervasive in the country-blues of the period, but they were rarely as explicit. Whereas one singer might ask "Baby, where'd you stay last night? You got the hair all tangled and you ain't talkin' right" (a stock blues verse), few would ask the same woman "Baby, what kind of scent is that?" when she walks through the door. Often, Carter's metaphors are so thin that the results have little value beyond their novelty. Musically, Carter has a relaxed, clear, and fairly indistinct singing style and a fluid, fingerpicking guitar attack to match it. While *Banana in Your Fruit Basket* paints an accurate picture of Bo Chatmon's alter ego, the music is very much a product of its time. Giving insight into what people appreciated in their entertainment, it also feels like proof that not much has changed. ---Nathan Bush

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I'm a blues fan, not easy listening jazzy blues, but the gritty, soulful kind. So when I say I bought this cd because I was going "Oh wow, no, this can't be real.", giggling to myself the whole time, I mean it as no insult to the blues genre. I couldn't quite remember how I stumbled across Bo, and I just now remembered: I was researching the song I was named after (Correna, Correna) and stumbled across his name on wikipedia. Searching further, I came across this.

So I laughed. A lot. I giggled until my face got a little red, and I called up my friends and told them they had to come over and hear this. And they did, and they laughed, too. But with time, my feeling about this cd has changed. I actually LIKE it. I pop this cd into my cd player and it mellows me. It's almost a little witty, and it has a great sound.

So while originally bought on a ridiculous, silly whim, I have come to find this cd in my cd player quite often. It always amazes me when that happens. ---Karina Presto

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