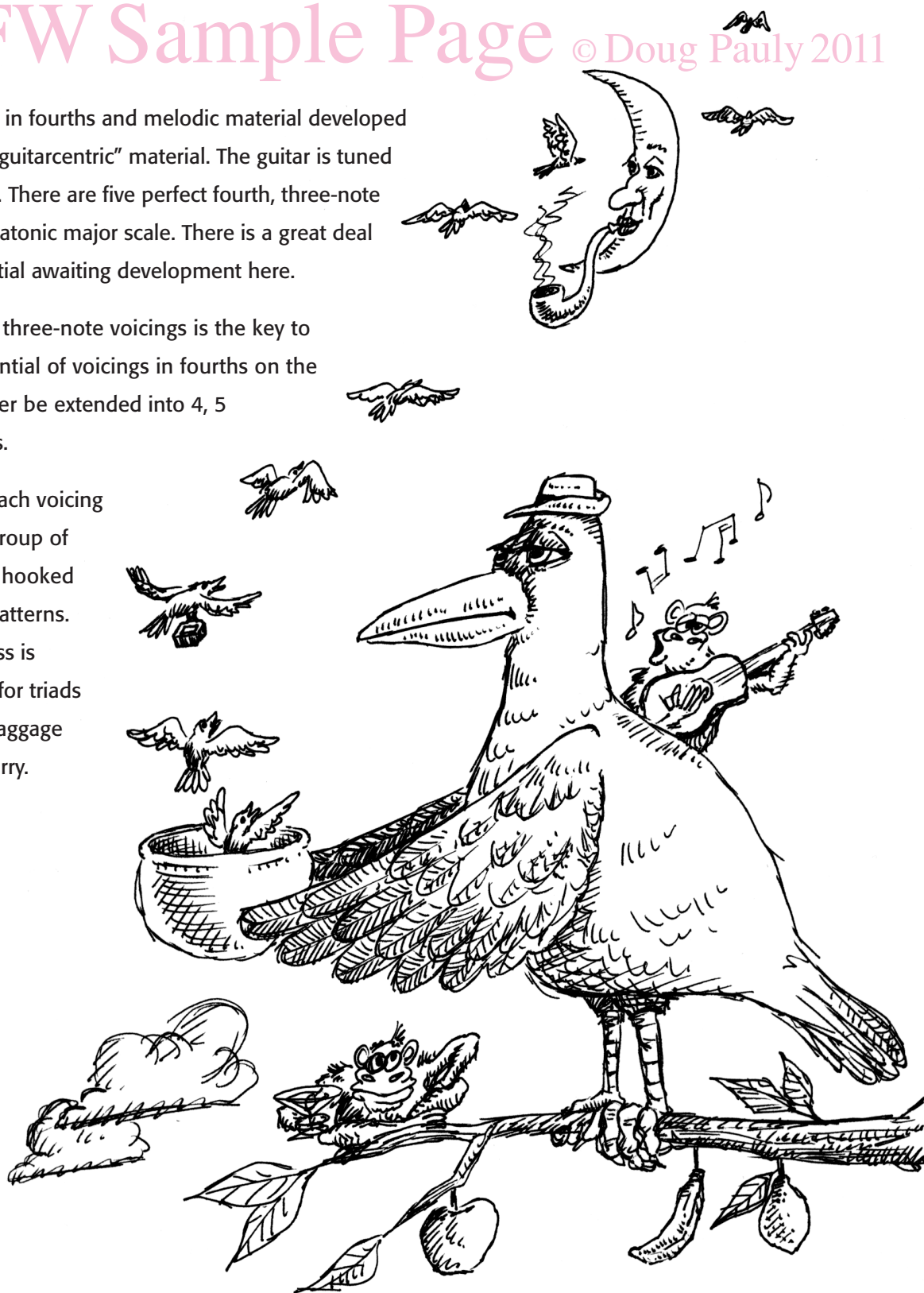


The closed voicings in fourths and melodic material developed from them is very “guitarcentric” material. The guitar is tuned primarily in fourths. There are five perfect fourth, three-note voicings within a diatonic major scale. There is a great deal of chromatic potential awaiting development here.

Understanding the three-note voicings is the key to unlocking the potential of voicings in fourths on the guitar. They can later be extended into 4, 5 and 6-note voicings.

For now, think of each voicing as one piece of a group of legos. They can be hooked up in a variety of patterns. This thought process is appropriate to use for triads also. It keeps the baggage light and easy to carry.



## So you know:

Fourth voicings are constructed upwards in intervals of diatonic fourths.

Five of the seven voicings derived from the major scale are perfect fourth voicings (perfect fourth/perfect fourth)

The remaining two (perfect fourth/augmented fourth marked “pa” in the chord name) are built on the first scale degree and (augmented fourth/perfect fourth marked “ap”) built on the fourth scale degree.

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# Fourth Voicings in Three Inversions

These exercises are the three inversions that can be built on each diatonic scale step in the key of C major.

FW Sample Page © Doug Pauly 2011

Cpa*			D4		
root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion	root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion
T A B	1 4 3	1 4	5 5 5	3 5 5	3 5 5

E4			Fap**		
root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion	root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion
7 7 7	5 7 7	5 7	8 8 8	6 9 9	7 9 9

G4			A4		
root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion	root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion
10 10 10	8 10 10	8 10	12 12 12	10 12 12	10 12 12

B4			Cpa		
root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion	root position	1st inversion	2nd inversion
14 14 14	12 14 14	12 14	16 16 16	13 15 15	13 15 15

continued on next page...

\* Cpa translates to C tonic with a perfect fourth and augmented fourth stacked on top.

\*\* Fap translates to F tonic with an augmented fourth and a perfect fourth stacked on top.