I arranged "House of the Rising Sun" in Open G-Minor tuning for an alternate tunings article I wrote for Guitar World Acoustic magazine. Although Open G-minor requires four strings to be lowered from standard tuning, it is well worth the effort. The sonorities are fabulous, and the fingerings are quite easy. To produce Open G-minor from standard tuning, lower the first, fifth and sixth strings one whole-step; and lower the second string one half-step from B to B-flat.

In this arrangement, try to sustain the notes as long as you can. For instance, sustain the last note of the first full measure (7th fret, fourth string) throughout the next measure. In measure 7, sustain the third-fret notes until the last note of the measure. At that point, fret the C (2nd fret, second string) with the ring finger to set up the subsequent Am11. Don't play this tune too fast - it is a lament. At a slower tempo, and with some give and take in the rhythm - *rubato* - this can be quite an emotional piece. - Mark Hanson