

# DERRY AIR

Ulster traditional

*mm = 72*

Musical notation for measures 1-5. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). It begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some chords and rests.

Musical notation for measures 6-10. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, featuring a slur over measures 8 and 9. A fermata is placed over the final note of measure 10.

Musical notation for measures 11-15. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a slur over measures 13 and 14. Measure 15 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical notation for measures 16-20. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, featuring a slur over measures 16 and 17. Measure 20 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical notation for measures 21-25. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a slur over measures 23 and 24. Measure 25 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical notation for measures 26-30. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a slur over measures 28 and 29. Measure 30 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Musical notation for measures 31-35. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes. Measure 31 starts with a fermata. The piece concludes with a final cadence in measure 35, marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Perhaps the most familiar piece of music in this collection because of its use as the melody for "Danny Boy" - love it or hate it, the quintessential "Irish" ballad (with words by an English actor named Fred Weatherly, who evidently never set foot in Ireland).

The original melody was collected by a Miss Jane Ross from an itinerant musician in the region of Limavady in County Derry sometime in the middle of the 19th Century. Regardless of the abuse it has had to endure over the years (nothing quite matches the experience of listening to a pub singer approaching the high note with the sure and certain knowledge that he/she will strike at it and fall off backwards), the melody remains unparalleled for its beauty and serenity.

