

DEDICATION

This book would not have happened without the involvement, encouragement, and assistance of many people, some but not all of whose names you'll see included in the titles and commentary on the tunes.

I have been blessed to be able to perform Irish traditional music for many years, starting in New York in the 1970's and continuing to the present day here on Cape Cod. Not all of the musicians that I have been privileged to know and play with are named in the tunes - if I tried that, the volume would be about as long as Chief O'Neill's legendary "1850", and I was pretty sure I didn't want to go there.

But first and foremost are my sincere love and thanks to my wife Pat, without whom I very likely would never have become involved in this great music or with any of the wonderful people who play it. She's been there from the get-go and hopefully will be by my side as I head towards my version of "the 1850" (just kidding!)

Thanks to my musical parents Ted and Florence (may they rest in peace) for nurturing my love for music of all kinds. I was never "pushed" into anything but allowed to "find it for myself" - a very 2025 attitude they employed successfully in the 1950's and 60's! I play Irish trad but love Bix, the Eagles, Meat Loaf, Alexander Borodin, Andres Segovia, Bill Evans, Joe Pass . . . the list could go on. And my mom and dad would be happy to keep reading.

Thanks on the "technical" side to folks like Phil Taylor, John Chambers, Mike Pavan, the EasyABC crew, my ever-patient beta testers Colin Everett and Dave MacAdam, and most recently to Mike Eskin for helping me through the intricacies of his abctool app.

There are probably other names that should appear here. Their non-inclusion doesn't mean I'm not grateful.

And a final thanks to Blessed Solanus Casey OFM Capuchin for his constant presence as my musical "guardian angel"!

Bill Black

Bourne MA (Canal-side)

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