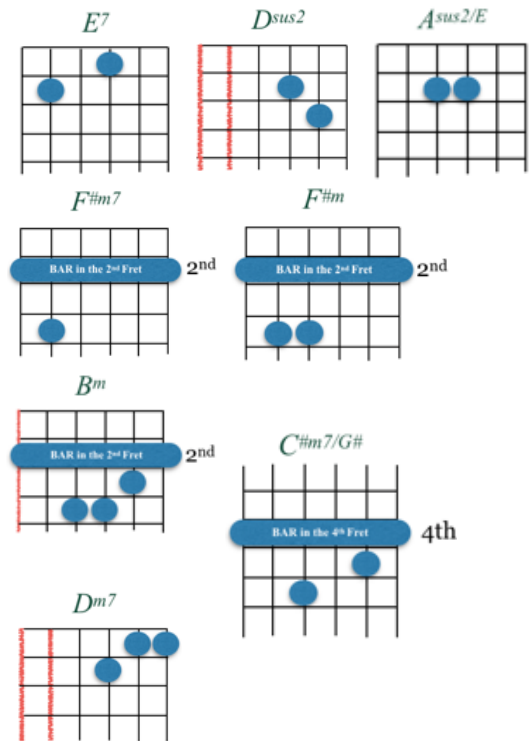


Danny Boy

Lyrics by Fred Weatherly © 1910-11 & Music is the Londonderry Air who's provenance is much disputed

E7 Dsus2 E A A7 D
 Oh Dan- ny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling,
F#m7 E A F#m D E
 From glen to glen, and down the mountain side.
E7 Dsus2 E A Asus2/E A7 D Dm
 The sum - mer's gone, and all the roses falling.
F#m E A Bm Dsus2 A
 It's you, it's you must go and I must bide.
E7 Dsus2 E A D A
 But come ye back when summer's in the meadow,
E7 Dsus2 E F#m C#m7/G# D A E
 Or when the valley's hushed and white with snow,
E7 A D A F#m
 It's I'll be there in sunshine or in shadow;
E7 D E A D Dm7 Bm E A
 Oh Danny Boy, oh Danny Boy, I love you so!

E7 Dsus2 E A A7 D
 But when ye come, and all the flowers are dying,
F#m7 E A F#m D E
 If I am dead, and dead I well may be,
E7 Dsus2 E A Asus2/E A7 D Dm
 Ye'll come and find the place where I am lying,
F#m E A Bm Dsus2 A
 And kneel and say an "Ave" there for me.
E7 Dsus2 E A D A
 And I shall hear, though soft you tread above me,
E7 Dsus2 E F#m C#m7/G# D A E
 And all my grave will war - - mer, sweeter be,
E7 A D A F#m
 For you will bend and tell me that you love me,
E7 D E A D Dm7 Bm E A
 And I shall sleep in peace until you come to me!
E7 D E A D Dm7 Bm E A
 Oh Danny Boy, oh Danny Boy, I love you so!



History

Fred E. Weatherly, K.C. is the author of the “**Danny Boy**” lyrics. He writes, “In 1912 a sister-in-law in America sent me “**The Londonderry Air**”. I had never heard the melody or even heard of it. It so happened that I had written in March of 1910 a song



called “Danny Boy.” I re-wrote it in 1911, then with only a few alterations was able to make it fit that beautiful melody. “Danny Boy” is sung all over the world by Sinn Feiners and Ulster-men alike, by English as well as Irish, in America as well as in the homeland.”

*find more at Fred E. Weatherly, K.C., **Piano and Gown**, London & New York, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1926, pp. 277-279 and <http://dannyboystory.com/fred-weatherly/>*

There are any number of theories, stories and research attempting to document the origins of “**The Londonderry Air**”. Here are three to give you a flavor.

- Jim Hunter’s *The Origin of Danny Boy* posits that the Air was discovered in Ouray, Colorado by Margaret Weatherly in 1912. Her husband Edward had abandoned his London medical practice in 1889 and emigrated to San Francisco. It was here that he met and married Margaret Anastasia Enwright before they moved to Colorado in 1908 as part of a gold rush in that state. Margaret heard gold-prospectors, believed to be from the Roe Valley, Ireland, playing a beautiful tune. She persuaded the prospectors to let her have a copy of the tune, which she sent to her brother-in-law Fred in Somerset in England.

*source standingstones.com; **The Danny Boy Trivia Collection** by Michael Robinson*

- In 2000, Brian Audley published his authoritative research on the origins of the “Londonderry Air” claiming it was collected by Jane Ross of Limavady in the County Londonderry, Ireland. He showed how the distinctive high section of the tune had derived from a refrain in “The Young Man’s Dream (Aislean an Oigfear)” transcribed by Edward Bunting in 1792 based on a performance by harper Donnchadh Ó Hámsaigh (Denis Hempson) at the Belfast Harp Festival.
- The descendants of blind fiddler Jimmy McCurry assert that he is the musician from whom Miss Ross transcribed the tune but there is no historical evidence to support this speculation. A similar claim has been made regarding the tune’s ‘coming’ to the blind itinerant harpist Rory Dall O’Cahan in a dream.

Wikipedia