

The Hills Of Mayo

(SATB + Piano)

SSAA and TTBB versions are available as well

Migrant workers from North Mayo journeyed to Scotland to pick potatoes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These were the Spalpeens and Tattie Hokers.

This was almost exclusively a Mayo and Donegal migration with a few recorded from Galway. Many were from Achill and according to local folklore it had been prophesised that the first and last trains would carry the bodies of dead people. The first train, in 1894 carried the bodies of 32 tattie hokers who drowned in Clew Bay on their way to Scotland when the boat they were in capsized. In 1937 the railway, which had shut down, was reopened to carry the bodies of those burned in the Kirkintollach bothy fire, which focused attention on Peadar O'Donnell's campaign on behalf of the migrant workers and led to a government inquiry at the time.

Often these men travelled on to England to pick beet. Sometimes their families travelled with them. In other cases their wives and children were left at home. The men returned for a month in the spring to sow what land they had. These journeys were unique to Mayo and the West of Donegal and were also a unique form of migration.

Lyrics by: David Loring

Composed by: David Loring

1 $\text{♩} = 85$ 2 3 4

Soprano

Alto

Tenor *mf* SOLO
8 I've trav - elled round this world a - lone seen mountains, val-leys,

Bass

Piano *p* *mp*

5 6 7 8 *mf*

S. *mf* SO

A. *mf* home

T. ALL home

8 vill - as, homes but none can match the hearth of home; so

B. *mf* but none can match the hearth of home.

Pno. *mf*

9 10 11 12 *f* melody on Soprano line *mf*

S. *f* lead me to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

A. *f* lead me hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

T. *f* lead me to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

B. *f* lead me. hills of May-o hills of home. Guard - ians of our

Pno. *f* *mf*

13 14 15 16 17 *f*

S. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

A. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

T. ⁸ west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

B. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev-er more from the rag-ing storm.

Pno.

18 19 20 21 *mf.*

S. *mf.* Through the years of toil and grimewhile work - ing in those Scot-tish fields

A. *mf* Through the years of toil and grimewhile work - ing in those Scot-tish fields.

T. *mf* Through the years of toil and grimewhile work - ing in those Scot-ish fields.

B. *mf* Through the years of toil and grimewhile work - ing in those Scot-ish fields.

Pno. *mf*

22 23 24 25

S. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my dear - est Mar - y that I left be - hind;

A. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my dear - est Mar - y that I left be - hind;

T. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my Mar - y that I left be - hind;

B. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my Mar - y that I left be - hind;

Pno.

26 27 28 29

S. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

A. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

T. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

B. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

Pno.

30 31 32 33

S. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

A. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

T. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

B. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

Pno.

34 35 36 37

S. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

A. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

T. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

B. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Pno. *mf*

38 39 40 41 *f* 42 *mp*

S. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

A. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

T. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

B. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

Pno. *f* *mp*

43 44 45 46

S. next door neigh bours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

A. next door neigh bours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

T. next door neigh bours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

B. next door neigh bours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

Pno.

47 48 49 50 *mf*

S. heart was sad-dened by the Kirk-in - til - loch_ both - y fire. Ten men died,

A. heart was sad-dened by the Kirk-in - til - loch_ both - y fire. Ten men died,

T. heart was sad-dened by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten men died,

B. heart was sad-dened by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten died

Pno.

51 52 53 54 *f* *mf*

S. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

A. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

T. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

B. trapped inside Duggan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

Pno.

55 56 57 58 *f*

S. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground; in the hills of May-o,

A. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the hills of May-o, *f*

T. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the hills of May-o, *f*

B. Dub-lin town to lay in the ground, in the hills of May-o, *f*

Pno. *f*

59 60 *mf* 61 62

S. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for *mf*

T. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for *mf*

B. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for *mf*

Pno. *mf*

63 64 65 66

S. *f*
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

A. *f*
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

T. *mp* *f* *mp* Optional duet with a bass voice OR All
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. I've trav - elled round this

B. *f* *mp* *f* Optional duet with a Baritone voice OR All
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. I've trav - elled round this

Pno. *f* *mp*

67 68 69 70

S. [Rest]

A. [Rest]

T. *mf* ALL
 world a - lone seen mountains, val-leys, vill - as, homes but none can match

B. *mf* ALL
 world a - lone seen mountains, valleys, villas, homes; but none can match

Pno. *mf*

71 72 73 *f* 74

S. *f*
so lead me to the hills of May - o,

A. *f*
home_____ lead me hills of May - o,

T. *f*
the hearth of home;_____ so lead me to the hills of May - o,

B. *f*
the hearth of home._____ lead me._____ hills of May - o

Pno. *mf* *f* *f*

75 76 *mf* 77 78 ritardando...to end

S. *mf*
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A. *mf*
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

T. *mf*
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

B. *mf*
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

Pno. *mf*

79 80 81 82

S. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

A. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

T. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

B. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

Pno. *mf* *p*

83 84 85

S. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

A. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

T. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

B. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

Pno. *f*

$\text{♩} = 50$