

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

$\text{♩} = 85$

Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

Piano

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent the vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The Soprano, Alto, and Bass staves each have a single note (A4, C5, and F4 respectively) in each of the four measures. The Tenor staff has a melodic line starting at measure 8, with lyrics: "I've trav - elled round this world a - lone seen mountains, val-leys,". Measure 8 begins with a forte dynamic (mf) and ends with a decrescendo (mp). The bottom staff is for the Piano, which provides harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns. Measure 1 starts with a piano dynamic (p) and ends with a piano dynamic (mp).

S. 5 - - 6 - - 7 - - 8 ***mf***
 A. ***mf*** so
 ALL
 T. 8 vill - as, homes but none can match the hearth of home; so
 B. ***mf*** but none can match the hearth of home.
 Pno.
 9 ***f*** 10 melody on Soprano line 11 ***mf*** 12
 S. leadme to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our
 A. ***f*** leadme hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our
 T. ***f*** 8 leadme 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

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

18 19 20 21

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

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

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

26 27 28 29

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

A.

T.

B.

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.

8

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

B.

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

Pno.

S.

34

f

Hills of Mayo, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

A.

f

Hills of Mayo, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

T.

8

f

Hills of Mayo, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

B.

f

Hills of Mayo, hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Pno.

38 39 40 41 42

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. 8 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.

43 44 45 46

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

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

T. 8 next door neighbours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

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

Pno.

47

48

49

50

S. 

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

A. 

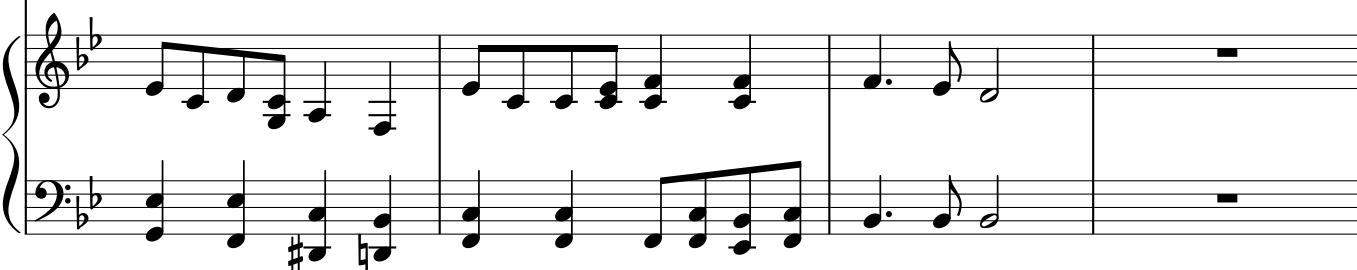
heart was sad-dened by the Kirk-in-til - loch both - y fire. Ten men died,

T. 

⁸ 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

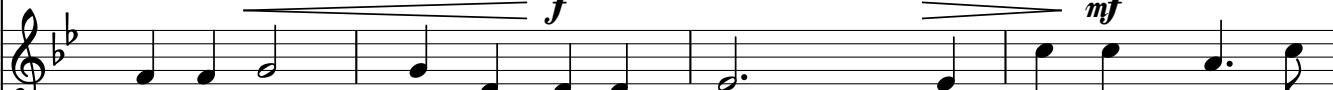
52

53

54

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. 

⁸ 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

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,

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

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

Pno.

59 60 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

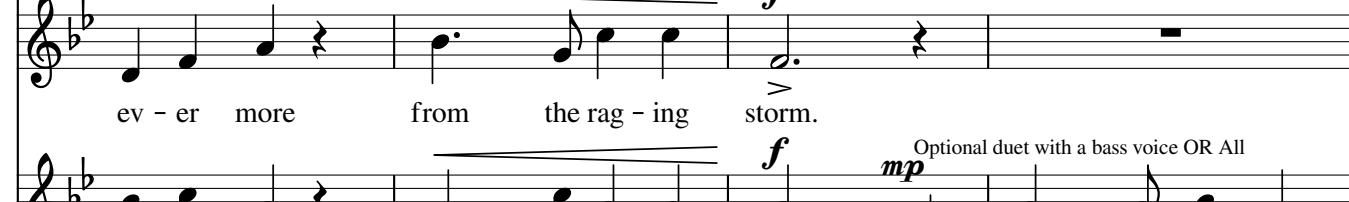
T. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

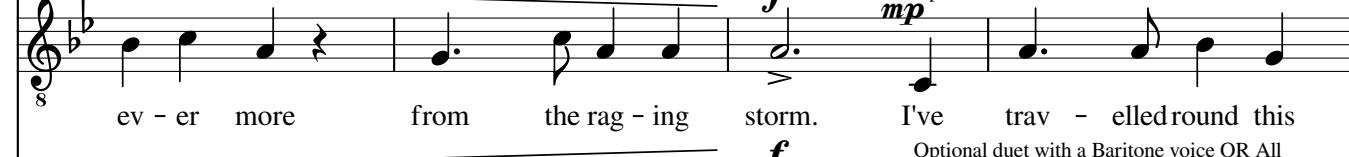
B. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

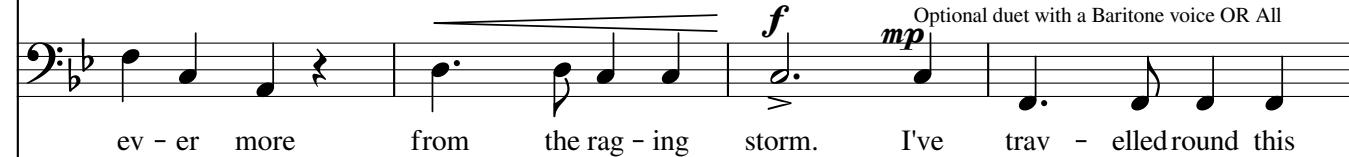
Pno.

63 64 65 66

S. 

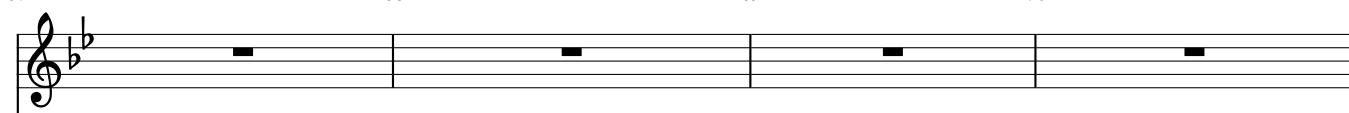
A. 

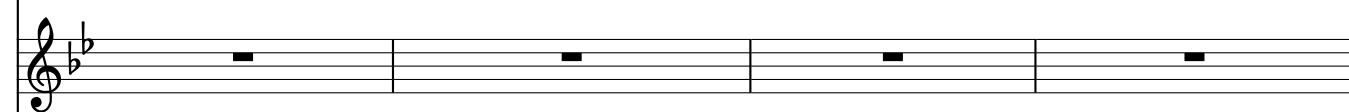
T. 

B. 

Pno. 

67 68 69 70

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno. 

71 72 73 74
 S. - - - - - so lead me to the hills of May - o,
 A. - - - - home - - - - lead me hills of May - o,
 T. 8 the hearth of home; - - - - so lead me to the hills of May - o,
 B. the hearth of home. - - - - lead me. hills of May - o
 Pno. { *mf* *f* *f*

75 76 77 78 ritardando. to end
 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
 T. 8 hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for
 B. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for
 Pno. { *mf*

79

80

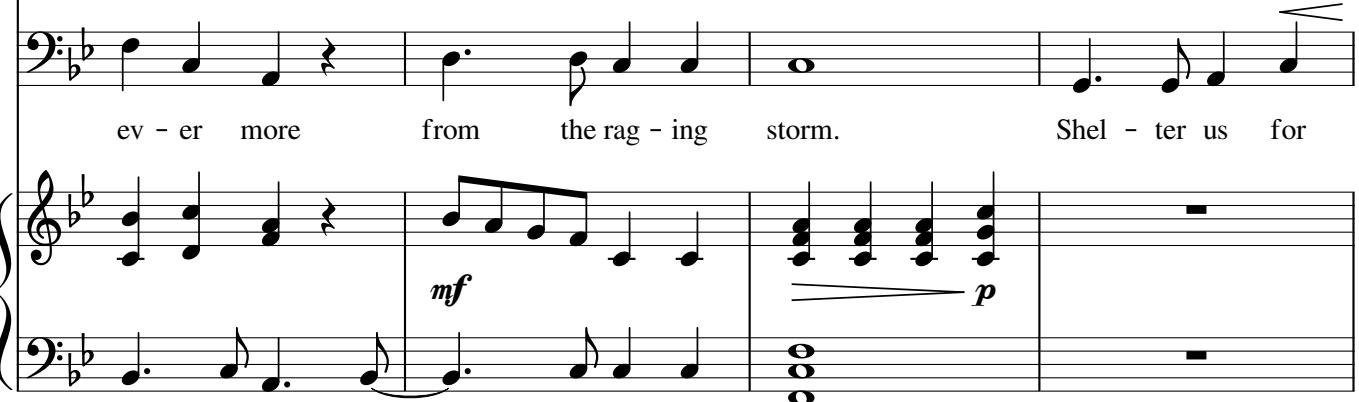
81

82

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno. 

 $\text{♩} = 50$

83

84

85

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno. 