

# The Hills Of Mayo

(SSAA + Piano)

Also available in SATB and TTBB versions

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 prophesied that the first and last trains would carry the bodies of dead people. The first train, in 1894 carried those 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 and arranged by: David Loring

1 *mf* 2 3 4

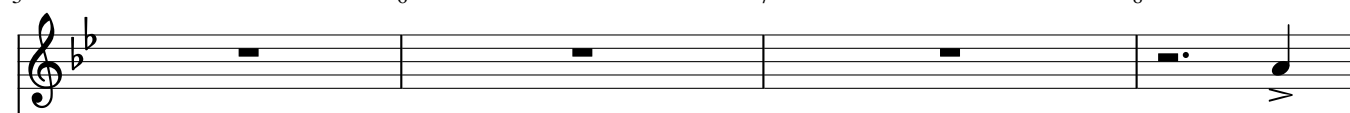
*mf* *mf* *mf* SOLO

I've trav - elled round this world a - lone seen mountains, valleys,


*p*


The musical score is written for Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2, and Piano. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 85. The dynamics are mezzo-forte (mf) for the vocal parts and piano (p) for the piano part. The lyrics are: "I've travelled round this world a-lone seen mountains, valleys,". The Alto 1 part has a "SOLO" section. The piano part has a "p" dynamic marking.


5 6 7 8

S1.  so

S2.  home

A1. *ALL*  home  
vill - as, homes but none can match the hearth of home; so

A2.  home  
but none can match the hearth of home.

Pno.  *mf*

9 10 11 12

S1. *f*  *f* *mf*  
lead me to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

S2. *f*  *f* *mf*  
lead me hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

A1. *f*  *f* *mf*  
lead me to the hills of May-o, hills of home. Guard - ians of our

A2. *f*  *f* *mf*  
lead me. hills of May-o hills of home. Guard - ians of our

Pno. *f*  *f* *mf*

13 14 15 16 17 *f*

S1. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

S2. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

A1. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

A2. west-ern shore. Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

Pno.

18 19 20 21

S1. *mf.* Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those Scot - ish fields

S2. *mf* Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those Scot - ish fields.

A1. *mf* Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those Scot - ish fields.

A2. *mf* Through the years of toil and grime while work - ing in those Scot - ish fields.

Pno. *mf*

22 23 24 25

S1. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my dear - est Mar - y that I left be - hind;

S2. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my dear - est Mar - y that I left be - hind;

A1. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my Mar - y that I left be - hind;

A2. All the time I'm think - ing clear - ly of my Mar - y that I left be - hind;

Pno.

26 27 28 29

S1. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

S2. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

A1. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

A2. *f* Ach - ing back, mud - dy knees, *mf* pick - ing those po - ta - toes.

Pno.

30 31 32 33

S1. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

S2. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

A1. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

A2. Mov-ing on, pick - ing beet in the Lin - coln fields.

Pno.

34 35 36 37

S1. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

S2. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

A1. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

A2. *f* Hills of May-o, hills of home. *mf* Guard - ians of our west - ern shore.

Pno. *f* *mf*

38 39 40 41 42

S1. *f* *mp*  
 Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

S2. *mf* *f* *mp*  
 Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

A1. *f* *mp*  
 Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

A2. *f* *mp*  
 Shel - ter us for ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Friends of mine and

Pno. *f* *mp*

43 44 45 46

S1. next door neighbours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

S2. next door neighbours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

A1. next door neighbours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

A2. next door neighbours per - ished in the dark Clew Bay. As an old man,

Pno.

47 48 49 50 *mf*

S1. heart was sad-dened by the Kirk-in-til - loch\_ both - y fire. Ten men died,

S2. heart was sad-dened by the Kirk-in-til - loch\_ both - y fire. Ten men died,

A1. heart was sad-dened by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten men died,

A2. heart was sad-dened by the 'til - loch both - y fire. Ten died

Pno.

51 52 53 54 *f* *mf*

S1. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

S2. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

A1. trapped in - side, Dug - gan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

A2. trapped inside Duggan raised the cry. Their bod - ies brought from

Pno.

55 56 57 58 *f*

S1. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground; in the hills of May-o,

S2. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the hills of May-o,

A1. Dub-lin town to lay in peace in the ground, in the hills of May-o,

A2. Dub-lin town to lay in the ground, in the hills of May-o,

Pno.

59 60 *mf* 61 62

S1. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

S2. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A1. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A2. hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

Pno. *mf*



63 64 65 66

S1. *f*  
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

S2. *mf* *f*  
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm.

A1. *f* *mp* Optional duet with Alto 2 OR All  
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. I've trav - elled round this

A2. *f* *mp* Optional duet with Alto 1 OR All  
 ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. I've trav - elled round this

Pno. *f* *mp*

67 68 69 70

S1. [Rest]

S2. [Rest]

A1. *mf*  
 world a - lone seen mountains, val leys, vill - as, homes but none can match

A2. *mf*  
 world a - lone seen mountains, valleys, villas, homes; but none can match

Pno. *mp*

71 72 73 *f* 74

S1. *f*  
so lead me to the hills of May - o,

S2. *f*  
home lead me hills of May - o,

A1. *f*  
the hearth of home; so lead me to the hills of May - o,

A2. *f*  
the hearth of home. lead me hills of May - o

Pno. *mf* *f*

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

S1. *mf*  
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

S2. *mf*  
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A1. *mf*  
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

A2. *mf*  
hills of home. Guard - ians of our west - ern shore. Shel - ter us for

Pno. *mf*

79 80 81 82

S1. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

S2. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

A1. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

A2. ev - er more from the rag - ing storm. Shel - ter us for

Pno. *p*

83 84 85

S1. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

S2. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

A1. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

A2. ev - er more; from the rag - ing storm. *f*

Pno. *f*  $\text{♩} = 50$