

Highlander's Farewell

(traditional tune)

A musical score for the traditional tune "Highlander's Farewell". The score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 108. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on the upper staff, and the accompaniment is on the lower staff. Chords are indicated above the staff: Am, G, Am, G, Am. The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment, with chords Am, G, Am, G, Am. The third staff starts with a repeat sign and continues the melody and accompaniment, with chords Am, G, Em. The fourth staff continues the melody and accompaniment, with chords Am, G, Em, Am. The score ends with a double bar line.

Melody transcription by Ethan Hazzard-Watkins, learned from Ruthie Dornfeld on American Café Orchestra's "The Early Years," <http://americancafeorchestra.com/store.html>. Chords provided by Owen Morrison, who says "Part of what I like about this tune is that it can be played with so many chordal variations. I don't really think there is a best way."

The tune is from the playing of Emmett Lundy of Grayson County, Virginia (1864-1953); more information on Emmett can be found at <http://www.OLDTIMEMUSIC.com/FHOFLundy.html>, and a short recording of Emmett's playing of the tune can be heard on youtube at <http://youtu.be/nXkxjwazDgo>. The musical inspiration for the dance is a version played by Alisdair Fraser and Natalie Haas which can be heard on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiNroM6BiFI> (a medley of Highlander's Farewell to Ireland/Farewell to Ireland/O'er the Water to Charlie, and ending with this tune, Highlander's Farewell). ~ P.P.

Web extra: Hear Mara Shea play the tune on the Elftones' recording, called "Elftones"— <http://www.elftones.com/Highlanders.mp3>.