

I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Handbells used: 3 octaves (27 bells);
4 octaves (33 bells);
5 octaves (39 bells)

optional

optional

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().
3 & 4 octave choirs omit notes in < >.
5 octave choirs play all notes.

Optional Handchimes used: 3 octave (14 chimes)

Performance Notes

This arrangement invokes the style of American Mountain and Bluegrass music. For example, the opening malletted bass line mimics the plucked strings of the acoustic bass; the treble thumb-damped chords resemble the “chop” of the mandolin; and the melody sings forth as a violin in a mournful low register.

In measures 37-51 the toll swings and echo markings apply only to the whole and tied whole notes.

The gyro technique  is played by ringing the bell, then while holding in a vertical position, slowly rotate to produce a slight vibration in sound. There is no set number of turns per note, but in this piece, one or two rotations per whole note should work well. In measures 88 - 90 one rotation per measure is advised with a clean damp on the first beat of measure 91. Remember, this is a very visual technique, so let the movement reflect the mood.

If the special techniques are difficult to execute at first, rehearse without them until fingers feel comfortable with the notes. Then incorporate the techniques a few at a time.

American Folk Tune

Arranged by Tammy Waldrop

Plaintive, with a pulse (♩ = 112-120)

1 2 3 4

mf

melody

mp TD

5 6 7 8

mp

Musical notation for measures 9-12, featuring piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The music is in a minor key and includes various chordal textures and melodic lines.

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Musical notation for measures 13-16, continuing the piano accompaniment with similar harmonic and melodic patterns.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. Measure 20 features a melodic line in the right hand marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic and the instruction "(melody)".

Musical notation for measures 21-24. Measures 21 and 23 include a section for the left hand labeled "Sk" (likely for a solo or special technique). Measure 24 continues the melodic line in the right hand.

Sk 25 26 27 28

mf (melody)

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mp 29 30 31 32

mp

33 34 35 TD

(melody) R 36 37 38

mf

R

R

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Musical notation for measures 39-42. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 39 features a treble clef with a dotted quarter note G4 and a half note G4. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note G2 and a half note G2. Measure 40 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note A4 and a half note A4. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note A2 and a half note A2. Measure 41 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note B4 and a half note B4. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note B2 and a half note B2. Measure 42 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note C5 and a half note C5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note C3 and a half note C3. A large watermark 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the first system.

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Musical notation for measures 43-45. Measure 43 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note D5 and a half note D5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note D3 and a half note D3. Measure 44 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note E5 and a half note E5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note E3 and a half note E3. Measure 45 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note F5 and a half note F5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note F3 and a half note F3. A large watermark 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the second system.

Musical notation for measures 46-48. Measure 46 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note G5 and a half note G5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note G3 and a half note G3. Measure 47 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note A5 and a half note A5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note A3 and a half note A3. Measure 48 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note B5 and a half note B5. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note B3 and a half note B3. A large watermark 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the third system.

Musical notation for measures 49-51. Measure 49 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note C6 and a half note C6. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note C4 and a half note C4. Measure 50 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note D6 and a half note D6. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note D4 and a half note D4. Measure 51 has a treble clef with a dotted quarter note E6 and a half note E6. The bass clef has a dotted quarter note E4 and a half note E4. A large watermark 'HOPE Publishing Company' is overlaid across the fourth system.

52 (melody) *mf* LV *mp* 53 54 LV 55

56 LV 57 LV 58 LV 59

60 (melody) *mf* R 61 62

63 64 65

Musical score for measures 66-69. Measure 66 has a fermata. Measure 67 has a repeat sign. Measure 68 has a fermata. Measure 69 has a melody line starting with a forte (f) dynamic. The score is in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

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Lower C3 and C4 to table to prepare for malletting.

Musical score for measures 70-81. Measure 70 has a *mf* dynamic and a **TD** (Tutti Drum) marking. Measures 71-81 continue with complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics. The score is in a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

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