

in memoriam Pete Seeger
Blue Skies

Irving Berlin (1926)

arr. Pete Seeger (1955)

based on a performance by Tony Trischka (Jan. 2014)

trans. C. Gainey (Aug. 2014)

Moderate* Swing** ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)*^{***}

The sheet music consists of four staves. The top two staves are for piano, showing chords and bass notes. The bottom two staves are for guitar, with tablature below the strings. Measure 1 starts with a piano chord followed by a guitar solo. Measures 2-3 show a piano part with sustained notes and a guitar solo. Measures 4-5 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 6-7 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 8-9 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 10-11 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo.

* "Moderate" in that this tune has a laid back feel, despite the active texture (i.e., there is a difference between music that is fast and music that is active).

** "Swing" reflects a flexible approach to the subdivisions of the beat in performances by both Pete Seeger and Tony Trischka. For example, the triplets in mm. 6-8 are often swung, while the cascade of triplets in m. 9 is often played more or less straight. This distinction lends a dramatic touch to the end of the "B" theme of this tune. Throughout this transcription, rhythms are notated according to the most plausible (at least in my opinion) straight rhythm – a baseline against which one may develop a personalized interpretation of how this tune should swing.

*** ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$) is meant to indicate the median within a range of possible tempos for this piece. The choice of tempo is, naturally, somewhat subjective. In my opinion, however, this tune should be played no slower than ($\text{♩} = 92$) and no faster than ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 108$).

13

8

0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 4 4 | 2 0 2 0 1 0 0 2 0 1 0 2 0 3 4 | 2 2 2 2 2 2

Sheet music for guitar, measures 19-20. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The first measure (measure 19) starts with a treble clef, an 8th note, and a sharp sign. The second measure (measure 20) starts with a bass clef. Both measures feature a repeating eighth-note pattern across the strings. Below the staff is a tablature for a six-string guitar, showing fingerings and string indications.

19

8

3 3 3 3 3 3
4 3 4 3 4 3
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2

3 3 3 3 3 3
4 3 4 3 4 3
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2

28

31

34

36

39