

# Paiute Lullaby

Informant/Performer:

Louis Ballard

1973

♩ = 60

Source:

Louis W. Ballard

*American Indian Music for the Classroom*

Canyon Records 4143

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a piano (p) dynamic marking. The lyrics are: Yu - u - ku Tsie - yu - un - uh yu - u - ku. The second staff contains the lyrics: tsie - yu - un - uh Tee - wa - wä yu - un - uh, tee - wä - wä yu - un - uh. The third staff ends with the instruction 'D.C. al Fine' and the word 'Fine' at the end of the piece. The lyrics for the third staff are: yu - - - ku tsie yu - un.

## Background Information

The Paiute Indians historically occupied the area of Eastern California and Nevada, between the Sierras and the Rockies, a vast stretch of dry, barren country known as the Great Basin. This Paiute Lullaby is performed today by tribal singers in Nevada near Walker River, Pyramid lake and other locales where the Paiute and Shoshoni and Bannock people make their homes. Like any modern citizens of Nevada they are engaged in farming, ranching and modern day activities, but the old songs, dances and traditional cultural traits are kept alive.