

# The Border Widow's Lament

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arr. Ruth Flavin

traditional

Musical notation for the first system of the piece. It consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: Eb, Bb, Ab, Eb, Bb, Ab, Bb. The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note Eb, followed by a dotted quarter note Bb, and then a series of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes.

Musical notation for the second system of the piece. It consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: Eb, Ab, Bb, Eb, Ab, Fm, Bb. The melody in the treble clef continues from the first system. The bass line features a series of chords and moving lines.

*My love, he built me a bonny bower  
And clad it o'er with lily flower  
A bonnier bower you ne'er did see  
Than my true love he built for me  
There came a man by middle day  
He spied his sport and went away  
And brought the King that very night,  
Who broke my bower and slew my knight  
He slew my knight to me so dear  
He slew my knight and seized his gear  
My servants all for life did flee  
And left me in extremity  
I sewed his shroud, making my moan  
I watched his corpse, myself alone  
I watched his body night and day  
No living creature came that way  
I took his body on my back  
And whiles I walked and whiles I sat  
I digged a grave and laid him in,  
And happed him with the turf so green  
Oh, don't you think my heart was sore,  
As I laid the earth on his yellow hair  
Oh, don't you think my heart was woe,  
As I turned about, away to go  
No living man I'll love again  
Since that my lovely knight is slain  
With just one lock of his yellow hair  
I'll chain my heart forevermore*