

# The Morning Star

1. G C

2. G

4. D7 G 2. G Em 3 D7 G

7. Em B7 Em

10. D7 Em G C B7 Em

13. G A7 D7 Em D7 G Em

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"The Morning Star" (in Gaelic "*An Maidineog*", "*Réalt na Maidine*") also known as "The Belles of Omagh" is an Irish, English and American reel in G Major (most versions) or F Major (Martin Hayes). The parts are played AA' (Harker/Rafferty), AB (Allan, Flaherty, Tubridy), AAB (Kennedy, Miller & Perron, O'Neill/1850 & 1001, Raven, Stanford/Petrie, Tolman), AA'BB (O'Neill/Krassen). I found this in Krassen's edition of O'Neill some time ago and wrote it down on staff paper, then got distracted and forgot about it. I rediscovered my copy and tracked it down. The version given here is pretty close to Krassen's.

The reel is common to Irish repertory, but has been widely disseminated. It appears in the large mid-19th century music manuscript collection of County Cork cleric and uilleann piper Canon James Goodman as "The Morning Star".

Variety stage performer and uilleann pipe master Patrick "Patsy" Touhey (1865-1923) made the first sound recording of the reel in 1907.

It was printed in Flaherty's **Trip to Sligo** (1990), Harker's **300 Tunes from Mike Rafferty** (2005), Kennedy's **Fiddlers Tune Book** (1951), Kennedy's **Traditional Dance Music of Britain and Ireland: Reels and Rants** (1997), McDermott's **Allan's Irish Fiddler** (c.1920's), Miller & Perron's **New England Fiddler's Repertoire** (1983), O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903), O'Neill's **Dance Music of Ireland: 1001 Gems** (1907), O'Neill (Krassen) (1976), Raven's **English Country Dance Tunes** (1984), Stanford/Petrie's **Complete Collection** (1905), Tolman's **Nelson Music Collection** (1969), Tubridy's **Irish Traditional Music, Book Two** (1999).

It was recorded by The Chieftains on **The Chieftains** (1978), **Rodney Miller's Airdance** (2000), Martin Hayes (1993), Patsy Touhey on **The Piping of Patsy Touhey** (2005), Patsy Touhey on **Wheels of the World** (1976), Aiden O'Rourke on **Heat the Hoose** (1998).