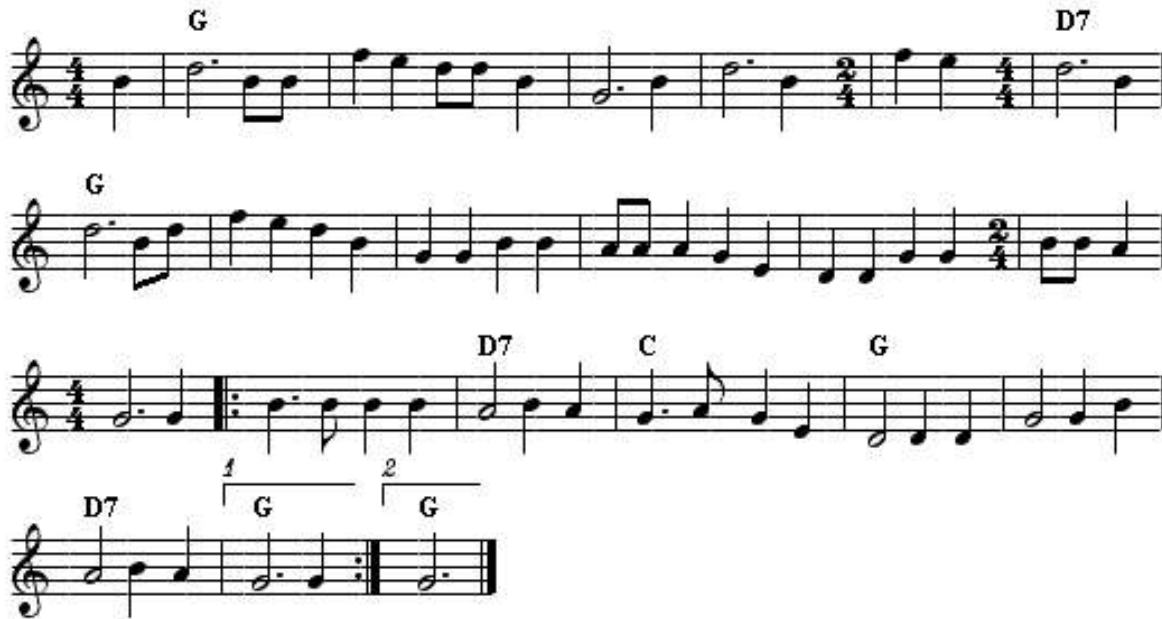


I Truly Understand



1. I wish to the Lord I'd never been born
Or died when I was young.
I never would've seen your two brown eyes
Or heard your flatterin' tongue.

Chorus:

I truly understand that you love another man
And your heart shall no longer be mine.
I truly understand that you love another man
And your heart shall no longer be mine.

2. Now who's gonna shoe your pretty little foot?
And who's gonna glove your hand?
Who's gonna be your own true love
When I'm in the foreign land, my love?
When I'm in the foreign land?

Chorus

3. Poppa's gonna shoe my pretty little foot,
Momma's gonna glove my hand.
And you'll still be my own true love
When you're in the foreign land, my love.
When you're in the foreign land.

Chorus

4. I'll never listen what a woman says,
Tho' her hair be black or brown.
I'd rather be on the top of some hill
With the rain a-pourin' down, my love.
With the rain a-pourin' down.

Chorus

"I Truly Understand" is another "who's gonna to shoe your foot?" song. Other songs using the "who's gonna shoe ..." sequence, are:

the Carter Family's "Storms Are On the Ocean",
Woody Guthrie's "Hard, Ain't It Hard" (in this section) and
"More Pretty Girls Than One" (in the American Songs section).

The sequence goes back to Child #76 "The Lass of Roch Royal" (aka "Lord Gregory") and probably farther.

It was recorded in 1928 by George (Shortbuckle) Roark, of Pineville, Kentucky with his family singing on the choruses.

I learned it from the New Lost City Ramblers recording. This plays well on the autoharp.