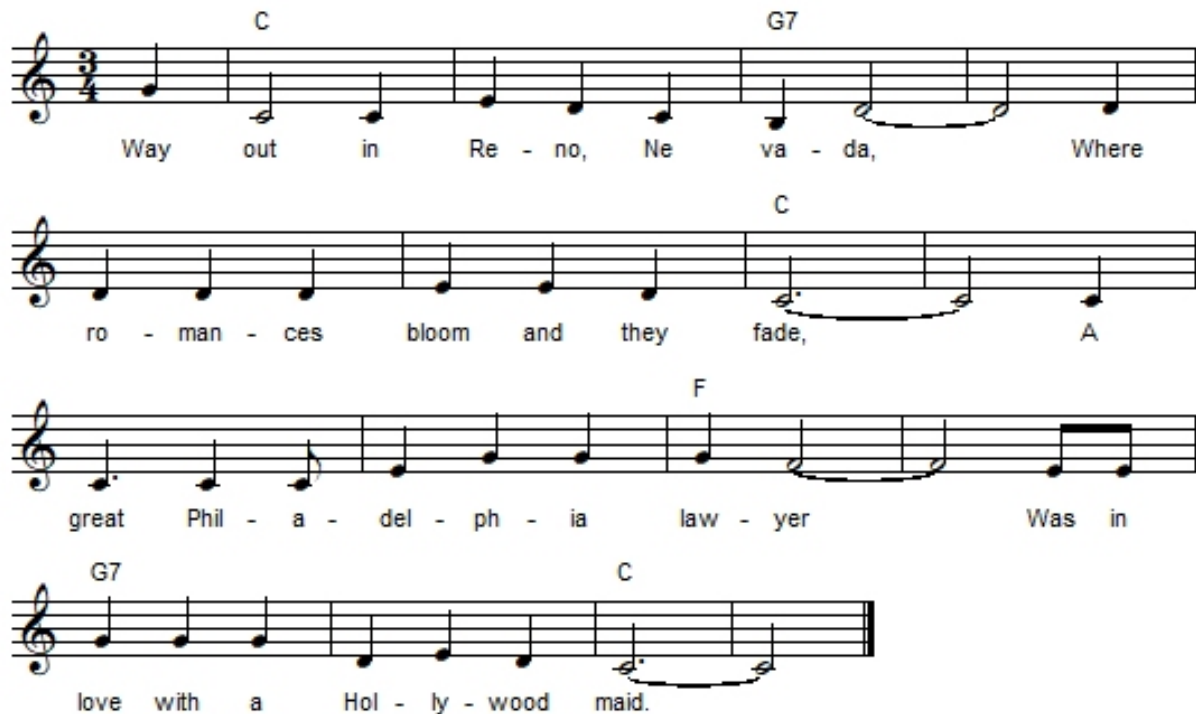


# The Philadelphia Lawyer



1. Way out in Reno, Nevada,  
Where romances bloom and they fade,  
A great Philadelphia lawyer  
Was in love with a Hollywood maid.
2. "Come, love, and we will wander  
Down where the lights are so bright.  
I'll win you a divorce from your husband,  
And we can get married tonight."
3. Wild Bill was a gun-totin' cowboy,  
Ten notches were carved on his gun.  
And all the boys around Reno  
Left Wild Bill's sweetheart alone.
4. One night when Bill was returning  
From ridin' the range in the cold,  
He dreamed of his Hollywood sweetheart,  
Her love was as lasting as gold.
5. As he drew near to her window,  
Two shadows he saw on the shade;  
'Twas the great Philadelphia lawyer  
Makin' love to Bill's Hollywood maid.
6. The night was as still as the desert,  
The moon hangin' high overhead.  
Bill listened awhile through the window,  
He could hear ev'ry word that he said:
7. "Your hands are so pretty and lovely,  
Your form is so rare and divine.  
Come go with me into the city  
And leave this wild cowboy behind."
8. Now tonight back in old Pennsylvania,  
The lights are still shining and bright,  
But there's one less Philadelphia lawyer  
In old Philadelphia tonight.

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"The Philadelphia Lawyer" is a song written by Woody Guthrie.

In the summer of 1937 Woody Guthrie was performing with "Lefty Lou" Crissman. She showed him an article about a Philadelphia lawyer being shot in Reno, Nevada. He found it humorous and penned a song he called "Reno Blues". The melody, as usual for Guthrie, is an adaptation of a traditional tune. This one is known as "The Jealous Lover". Another version of this tune is used for "The Frozen Logger".

It was recorded by Bob Baker and the Pike County Boys, Peter Rowan and Don Edwards, Mark Erelli and Jeffery Foucault, Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Cisco Houston and others.