

Give The Fiddler A Dram

Musical score for "Give The Fiddler A Dram" in G Major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'A' and contains a first ending. The second staff is labeled 'B' and contains a second ending. The third and fourth staves continue the melody. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, F, G, D7, G, C, D7, A, G, C, G, C, D7, G.

Dance All Night with a bottle in my hand,
Bottle in my hand, bottle in my hand;
Dance All Night with a bottle in my hand,
Just before day give the fiddler a dram.

"Give the Fiddler a Dram" also known as "Fiddler a Dram" and "Fiddler's Dram" is an old-time American breakdown widespread in Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. It is usually played in G Mixolydian although this version has more F#s than naturals in it so I'm calling it G Major.

The title appears in a list of traditional Ozark Mountain fiddle tunes compiled by musicologist/folklorist Vance Randolph, published in 1954.

The tune of the B part brings to mind "The Sailor's Hornpipe".

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002), Slater's **Clawhammer Banjo Solos** (1979), Chase's **American Folk Tales and Songs** (1956) and other sources.

It was recorded by Gid Tanner & Riley Puckett (78 RPM) (1924), Tennessee Ramblers (78 RPM) (1929), Carter Bros. & Son (78 RPM) (1929), Carter Brothers and Son on **Echoes of the Ozarks, vol. 1** (1970), Holy Modal Rounders on **Holy Modal Rounders** (1964), New Lost City Ramblers on **Remembrance of Things to Come** (1966), Red Clay Ramblers on **Hard Times** (1981), Frank Ferrel on **Yankee Dreams: Wicked Good Fiddling from New England** (1990), Mark Graham on **Natural Selections** (1987), Dan Gellert & Brad Leftwich on **A Moment in Time** (1993), Dan Gellert & Brad Leftwich on (1996), Country Cooking on **Country Cooking** (1971), Gerry Milnes & Lorraine Lee Hammond on **Hell Up Coal Holler** (1999) and Jim Herd on **Old Time Ozark Fiddling** (1991).