

## Sullivan's Hollow

The image shows a musical score for 'Sullivan's Hollow'. It is written in D Major (one sharp) and cut time. The score is divided into two sections, A and B. Section A consists of two staves of music, and Section B consists of two staves of music. The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff.

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"Sullivan's Hollow" is an American breakdown in cut time and D Major. The parts are played AA'B.

Although often set in the key of 'D', it is also played in the key of 'C'

Sullivan's Hollow is a place near Lorena, a six mile area that straddles Smith and Covington Counties, Mississippi, a part of the Bienville National Forest. It was a rough-and-tumble hill community for many years during and after the Civil War, as captured by Ann R. Hammons, author of *Wild Bill Sullivan – King of the Hollow* (1980). She describes "the bloodiest fight the Hollow ever knew" (p. 65), a mid-19th century battle that began after Wild Bill Sullivan had whipped Gabe Chain in a fight. In retaliation Chain determined to kill Bill's brother, Neece, at Shiloh Church in Covington County and enlisted the aid of some friends in the venture. They attacked Neece, who was accompanied by his friends Frank Gibbeons and Dan Hathorn at the spring near the church and a bloody fight ensued in which Gabe Chain himself was killed. During the fight another of the Chain gang slumped to the ground and was asked by one of his comrades whether he was hurt much, a question answered by Dan Hathorn who said, "You damn right he is hurt. He is dead as hell". Hathorn saved Neece Sullivan by pulling two guns and warning the others that, "If you touch him, you are dead men".

Despite its notorious reputation, modern research has shown that reports were exaggerated; the fearsome reputation was doubtless not unwelcome to the inhabitants, who valued their independence and privacy.

It was printed in Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994) and Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021)

It was recorded by Freeny's Barn Dance Band on (78 RPM) (1930), on **Mississippi String Bands, vol. 2: Traditional Fiddle Music of Mississippi** and on **Mississippi String Bands vol. 1, 1928-1935** (2000. Various artists), Rayna Gellert on **She Waits for Night** (2005) and Bob Carlin on **Fiddle Tunes for Clawhammer Banjo** (1980).