

Shamus O'Brien

Waltz

W.S. Hays

Arr. Ian Bell

Chord progressions for the score:

- Staff 1: G, G7, C, G
- Staff 2: G, Em, Am, D, G
- Staff 3: G7, C, C#dim, G, D
- Staff 4: G, G (1.), G (2.), Em
- Staff 5: B7, C, D
- Staff 6: G, G7, C, C#dim
- Staff 7: G, D, G, G (1.), G (2.)

This was a standard old-time waltz for many Ontario fiddlers in the 20th century. The melody comes from an 1867 Irish-American music hall song by William Shakespeare Hays - "Sheamus O'Brien; Answer to Nora O'Neal". There are a million different ways to play this tune. This is more or less how I do it. The minor key B part is wonderfully melodramatic. I've found it's good for accompanying the waltz-clog stepdance.