

To the Performer

The markings in this piece indicate as closely as possible how we performed it. Please take these markings as suggestions only. Please feel free to adapt and adjust as works best for you.

Generally, it is preferred to time the music to finish sections along with text, and extend ad lib as needed (either with improvisation or modified repeats), when possible using the final written measures as the completion. Text that is in the clear is marked in empty measures.

All harp sections are underscoring unless marked "solo" or otherwise designated, as in some cases where the harp finishes the phrase after the text. Dynamics should be adjusted accordingly to accommodate the storyteller and the performance venue.

Harmonics written where played.

Oisín in Tír na n-óg is designed for lever harps with a range from two octaves below middle C up to high A an octave above the staff (A1).

Octave notation for lever changes matches the standard for pedal harps: middle C is C 4, with the 4th octave beginning at the E above, and going down to the F below the treble clef. The 3rd octave is the octave E-F above the 4th, etc.

All music is original except the selections for the "Three Noble Strains," (rehearsal letters F1, F2, F3) which are traditional pieces.

PLEASE DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.
No part of this may be reproduced without permission
Thanks

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to our parents Betsy, Robert, Michael, and Brede. Grandma Freda—for your creative stories. Barra—for your generosity & sharing your love. Peter—for always giving above and beyond. Tim—for being a true patron of the arts. To our families, friends, and teachers who have encouraged and inspired us—we're very grateful. Lastly, our deepest thanks to all the storytellers who have shared this story and kept it alive.

Oisín in Tír na n-Óg

Fianna Theme
A *lively* ♩ = c. 120
solo
mp
Alyssa Reit

"Long long ago...
...the Fianna"
B (*underscore*)
1.
2.
40
47
54
C ♩ = c. 96
sempre marcato
"Now, not just
anybody could
join the Fianna"
mp
61
67
73
D.S. until cue:
"...compose their own poetry."

D ♩ = c. 80

slower, rubato e legato

78 *"The leader... Finn mac Cumhaill."* *subito mp*

E *solo*

84 *"...fingers had magic in them."*

90 *mf*

F1 ♩ = c. 40

(underscore)

ad lib as needed to:

96 *"The first... Suantraí."* *"...bring on sleep."*

101 *solo* *"The next... Geantraí."*

G2 *faster, lighter* ♩ = c. 84

"A misty May morning..."

28

ad lib as needed to: *"...eased their saddened spirits."*

G3 *much faster and lighter*

solo

33 *mp*

H1

38

H1 *very fast and light*

alternate with text ad lib

42 *rit.* *"Suddenly they stopped..."* *p*

47 *"...extraordinary beauty."*

F2 ♩ = c. 50

(underscore)

ad lib as needed to:

"... those feelings."

solo

2

F3 ♩ = c. 54

(underscore)

7 *"The last... Goltraí"*

ad lib as needed to: *"...unshed tears."* *solo*

12

G1 *somber* ♩ = c. 60

17 *"...battle of Górra."* *mf*

ad lib as needed to: *"So Finn gathered together..."*

23

H2 *sparkling* ♩ = c. 108

p

52 *quasi bisbigliando* *sim.* *mp*

55

58

61

64

67 *repeat bisp. as needed to: "...near to them and she said..."* "Finn, son of Cumhaill!"

71 *continue as needed to: "...love for your son Oisín compels me."* "...most extraordinary place..."
[simulate tremolo by moving 2nd finger rapidly back & forth across string, striking both with pad and nail]

74 *ad lib as needed to: "...have me as your wife!"* *continue as needed to: "...running through his mind."*

79 "Niamh answered..." *ad lib as needed to: "...all be increased there."* *continue as needed to: "...my music is known there?"*

84 "Oh, Oisín..." *ad lib as needed to: "...Oh, do say yes!"* *continue as needed to: "...words flew out of his mouth."*

89 *molto espressivo e rubato* $\text{♩} = 66$
"...I will come gladly!" *f* "...so he sprang..." *mf* "But when Finn saw Oisín..."

96 *mp* *p*

9 *rit. poco a poco* *extend ad lib as needed to: "...too much to say."*
p.d.l.t.

13 *L1 with energy ♩ = c. 132* *repeat as needed to: "...over the waves!"* *L2 ♩ = ♩*
"Then suddenly..."

19 *repeat as needed to: "...ethereal sighs"* *L.H. rhythm ad lib*
F #2 E b5 C #2 B b5 A b5

28 *gliss ad lib to: "...held fast on their way."* *L4* *repeat as needed for lever changes, or to "lighted down."*
"...daunting wind..." *repeat & rit. to* "...finally they came..." *levers all ♯*

5 *M magical ♩ = c. 108*
"What a marvel! ...unbelievably beautiful."

8

10

12

14

16 *rit. repeat and fade ad lib to "happy life had just begun."*

19 *N1 Robustly ♩ = c. 60*
"...greeting them warmly." *mf*

27

34 *continue as solo after "Niamh my daughter shall be your bride."* *rit.*

42 *N2 a tempo* *extend ad lib as needed to:*
text resumes: "Oisín's heart..." 1. "...each day passed."
molto rit.

48 *O sweetly ♩ = c. 88* *continue as solo when text finishes*
"The life in Tír na n'Og..." *p* *mp*

52 *mf*

55 *p*
mp

59 *rit.*
pp

[P1] *alternate with text*

63 "But Oisín's hand...grew restless."
"...every-thing I could want."
"He plucked...his instrument..."
"...let his hand fall."
"... Loch Lene and the hunt..."

[P2] *very freely (underscore)*
pp
extend ad lib as needed to: "...starry night as his canopy."

"Of course!...go tomorrow."

[S1] *as before* *repeat as needed to: "...and again they feasted..."*
molto rit.

41 "The next day..."

[S2] *very freely, as underscore*
pp
continue without break

47 "...and so it went on...seven days."
"...something made him stop."

[S3] *unmeasured*
continue as needed to: "...went straight to Niamh."
poco accel.

52 "This is all too weird..."
"Niamh, something is not right..."

[T1] "Seeing her" [T2] *repeat as needed to: confusion...*
confusion...
rit.

56

continue as needed to: "...you can have your fill before long."
pp
U *...rode home."*
So they gathered..."

6

[Q] *with movement* *♩ = c. 72*

10 "The following day"

16

21 *extend ad lib as needed to: "...Niamh led Oisín back to where the stag lay..."*

[R] *very freely interject with text ad lib*

27 "...a stately little structure."
slide both levers to flat
A♯3 G♯3
sim.
A♯3 G♯3
A♯3 G♯3

34 "...enjoying the tasty meal."
A♯3 G♯3
A♯3 G♯3

[V] *♩ = c. 72*
rit. poco a poco

13 "...when the sun awoke them..."
p

extend ad lib as needed to: "...more silent and lonely."
pp
continue as needed to: "...came to a huge fortress..."

19

[W] *♩ = c. 48*

23

"He wants to marry her..."
continue as needed to: "...remains a captive."
rit.

29

[X] *♩ = c. 92*

33 "I will try...a beautiful woman..."

2

rit.

6

Y *

"...fight to the death." **ff**

"...steps of the giant." **ff**

"...huge and ugly..." **ff**

*knock forcefully on sounding board

12

"...spied Oisín and growled." **ff**

"...leapt to his feet..."

"I challenge thee! he called out."

This part left blank to facilitate page turns

52

accel.

59

ff

66

fff

"...cheered wildly..."

72

AA gallantly $\text{♩} = c. 88$

"...relief and joy." **f**

77

fade and continue without break to BB on cue: "A longing arose in him..."

17

Z with urgency $\text{♩} = c. 126$

"With a loud nasty cry..."

ff **mp**

continue without break

24

31

cresc. poco a poco

38

45

cresc. molto

82

BB (Fianna Theme) (underscore)

pp

1.

2.

96

repeat as needed to: "...here in the Land of the Ever-young." and finish.

101

CC molto rubato e espressivo $\text{♩} = c. 60$

mp **p**

"Ah, but Niamh opened her eyes..."

106

111

116

rit. poco a poco extend ad lib as needed to: "...happy and at peace."

DD ♩ = c. 76 (non-rubato)

"Niamh was not comforted."

p.d.l.t.

extend ad lib as needed to: "...how to stay in a saddle!"

EE slower molto rubato e espressivo

norm.

continue without break

extend ad lib as needed to: "...remain upon the fairy steed."

molto rit.

repeat as needed to: "...names of his kin and friends." "Finn?" "Quilte?" "Dermiot?" "Bran?" "Sciolan?"

HHI ♩ = c. 69

"But when... met his eyes!"

p

"...They would come!"

II desperately ♩ = c. 108

"He went from one..."

mf

extend ad lib as needed to: "...towards the horizon."

FF as before

repeat as needed to: "At last he arrived..."

"...shook the reins..."

rit.

GG ♩ = c. 100

"There he saw..."

mf

extend ad lib as needed to: "...those who were dear to him."

JJ1 ♩ = c. 84

repeat as needed to: "They, too, stopped..."

"...he saw a band of workers..."

JJ2

extend ad lib as needed to: "god-like presence."

"To them he appeared..."

KK1

8^{va} - - - loco accel.

"They don't have the strength..."

repeat & accel. to:

"...sent the rock tumbling down the hill."

"The men let out a great cheer..."

ff

"...but then screams of fear!"

♩ = c. 92

KK2 ♩ = c. 120

wild, rubato, espressivo

"...as fast as they could!"

f

(finish solo to LLI)

LL1 ♩ = c. 96

"The white horse..."

molto rit.

mp

sim.

30 *rit. poco a poco* $\text{♩} = c. 76$

2 *mf*

10 *poco rit.* **LL2** repeat as needed to: "Oisín gazed around him..." **LL3** $\text{♩} = c. 69$ *sadly* "I am looking for Finn..."

20

29 **LL4** repeat as needed to: "Oisín said, 'Surely of Finn...'"

43 *extend ad lib as needed to: "...I am looking for my father."*

"Are your wits gone... Finn fell..."

continue without break

MM1 $\text{♩} = c. 60$ *molto rubato e espressivo*

mf *rit.*

MM2 "What ways," asked Oisín... *continue as needed to: "...no need now for all that."*

64 *molto rit.*

NN1 $\text{♩} = c. 120$

"No need?!. Ooh, the men grew angry..."

accel.

NN2 *continue as needed to: "Wait, wait!"*

accel. cresc. molto *molto rit.*

86 **NN3** repeat as needed to: "Yah, but what I..." *very freely and warm* repeat as needed to: "Ah..." *molto rit.* repeat as needed to: "...lifted Oisín up..."

95 **OO** $\text{♩} = c. 92$ *very freely and warm* repeat as needed to: "...when they arrived..."

mf

103

110

117 *rit.*