

Digital Tradition Mirror

I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier



Ten mil - lion sol - diers to the war have gone, Who may ne - ver re - turn a - gain._____ Ten mil - lion



mo - thers' hearts must break For the ones who died in vain._____ Heads bowed down in sor - row,



In her lone - ly years, I heard a mo - ther mur - mur thro' her tears,_____ I did - n't raise my boy to be a



sol - dier, I brought him up to be my pride and joy,_____ Who dares to place a mus - ket on his shoul -



- der To shoot some o - ther mo - ther's dar - ling boy?_____ Let na - tions ar - bi - trate their fu - ture trou -



- bles, It's time to lay the sword and gun a - way._____ There'd be no war to - day If mo - thers all would



say, "I did - n't raise my boy to be a sol - - dier."

(This score available as [ABC](#), [SongWright](#), [PostScript](#), [PMW](#), or a [MIDI file](#))

[Pennywhistle notation](#) and [Dulcimer tab](#) for this song is also available

I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier

Ten million soldiers to the war have gone
Who may never return again,
Ten million mothers' hearts must break
For the ones who died in vain.
Head bowed down in sorrow
In her lonely years
I hears a mother murmur thro' her tears.

cho: I didn't raise my boy to be soldier
I brought him up to be my pride and joy
Who dares to place a musket on his shoulder
To shoot some other mother's darling boy?
Let nations arbitrate their future troubles
It's time to lay the sword and gun away,
There'd be no war today
If mothers all would say:
"I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier."

What victory can cheer a mother's heart
When she looks at her blighted home?
What victory can bring her back
All she cared to call her own?
Let each mother answer
In the years to be
Remember that my boy belongs to me!

RG
OCT98

Thanks to [Mudcat](#) for the Digital Tradition!

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N-I Ddn't Raise My Boy to be a Soldier

C-

A-

T-

S-100

K-G

B-2/4

F-

H-

M-1D-8 S-6 G-5 a-8 c-8 b-8 a-8 G-8 b-4 d-4 G-4 G-8 a-8 b-8 a-4 G-8 E-4 D-4 W-2 G-2_W-3 G-4 D-4
L- Ten mil- lion sol- diers to the war have gone, Who may ne- ver re- turn
a- gain. Ten

H-

M-8G-5 F-8 G-4 b-4 d-5 c#8 b-4 b-8 c#8 d-4 b-4 b-4 a#4 b-2_b-2

L- mil- lion mo- thers' hearts must break For the ones who died in
vain.

H-

Chorus:

M-8c-8 d-8 e-8 d-8 b-4 a-4 G-8 a-8 b-8 G-8 a-5 a-8 a-8 G#8 a-8 a#8 b-8 c#8 b-8 a-8 d-2_d-4 d-4

L- Heads bowed down in sor- row, In her lone-ly years, I heard a mo- ther mur-mur
thro' her tears, I

H-

M-8e-8 d-8 c#8 d-8 c%8 b-8 a#8 b-8 b-2 a-5 b-8 d-8 c-8 b-8 a-8 d-8 c-8 b-8 a-8 d-2_d-5 F-8

L- did-n't raise my boy to be a sol- dier, I brought him up to be my
pride and joy, Who

H-

M-8a-8 G-8 F-8 G-8 a-8 G-8 F-8 E#8 F-2 a-5 a#8 b-8 c#8 b-8 a-8 F-8 E-8 F-8 G-8 a-2_a-5 d-8

L- dares to place a mus-ket on his shoul- der To shoot some o-ther mo-
ther's dar-ling boy? Let

H-

M-8e-8 d-8 c#8 d-8 c%8 b-8 a#8 b-8 b-2 a-5 b-8 d-8 c-8 b-8 a-8 G#8 a-8 b-8 c-8 b-2_b-5 b-8

L- na- tions ar-bi-trate their fu-ture trou- bles, It's time to lay the sword
and gun a- way. There'd

H-

M-8c-8 b-8 c-8 b-8 c-5 b-8 b-8 a-8 b-8 a-8 b-5 c-8 d-8 e-8 d-8 b-8 G-8 a-8 b-8 G-8 a-2 G-4 S-6 S-6

L- be no war to- day If mo-thers all would say, "I did-n't raise my boy to
be a sol- dier."

@ Generated more or less automatically by swtopmw by Erich Rickheit KSC

heading ""

breakbarlines

underlaysize 9.5

notespacing *1.1

justify top left right

stavespacing 1/64

systemgap 64

playtempo 100

key G

time 2/4

[stave 1 treble 1 text underlay ulevel -25]

"Ten mil-lion sol-diers to the war have gone, Who may ne-ver re-turn a-

[nocheck] d-; | g. a- | c'- b-; a- g- | b d' | g g- a- | b- a g- | e d |

"gain.= Ten mil-lion mo-thers' hearts must break For the ones who died in"

G_ | g d | g. f- | g b | d'. #c'- | b b- #c'- | d' b | b #a |

"vain.= Heads bowed down in sor-row, In her lone-ly years, I heard a mo-

B_ | B | c'- d'-; e'- d'- | b a | g- a-; b- g- | a. a- | a- #g-; a-

"ther mur-mur thro' her tears,= I did-n't raise my boy to be a sol-

#a- | b- #c'-; b- a- | D'_ | d' d' | e'- d'-; #c'- d'- | %c'- b-; #a- b- | B

"dier, I brought him up to be my pride and joy,= Who dares to place a mus-

| a. b- | d'- c'-; b- a- | d'- c'-; b- a- | D'_ | d'. f- | a- g-; f- g- | a-

"ket on his shoul-der To shoot some o-ther mo-ther's dar-ling boy?= Let na-

g-; f- #e- | F | a. #a- | b- #c'-; b- a- | f- e-; f- g- | A_ | a. d'- | e'-

"tions ar-bi-trate their fu-ture trou-bles, It's time to lay the sword and"

d'-; #c'- d'- | %c'- b-; #a- b- | B | a. b- | d'- c'-; b- a- | #g- a-;

"gun a-way.= There'd be no war to-day If mo-thers all would say, ``I did-

b- c'- | B_ | b. b- | c'- b-; c'- b- | c'. b- | b- a-; b- a- | b. c'- | d'-

"n't raise my boy to be a sol-dier.' ' "

e'-; d'- b- | g- a-; b- g- | A | [nocheck] g ||

[endstave]

Digital Tradition Mirror

This is pennywhistle notation for the song, automatically produced by an experimental program.

This notation is pretty simple; dark circles mean covered holes; empty circles mean uncovered holes; a '+' below means to blow harder to get the upper octave; a '#' below means this note is too low for the whistle chosen and you'll have to fake it :) The author of this program always plays accidentals by closing holes, so you'll never see half-covered holes.

When I was starting, I found notation like this to be very helpful, and I know plenty of people who have trouble reading music who find this notation easier. Good luck!

I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier

(D whistle)

The image displays a musical score for the song "I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier" on a D whistle. The score is presented in four staves, each with a corresponding pennywhistle fingering diagram below it. The notation uses dark circles to represent covered holes and empty circles for uncovered holes. Some notes include a '+' sign below them, indicating a harder blow to reach the upper octave, and a '#' sign below them, indicating a note that is too low for the whistle and must be faked. The score is in 2/4 time and begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier

(This score available as [ABC](#), [SongWright](#), [PostScript](#), [PMW](#), or a [MIDI file](#))

(Choose a whistle key: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [Ab](#) [Bb](#) [Cb](#) [Db](#) [Eb](#) [Fb](#) [Gb](#) [A#](#) [B#](#) [C#](#) [D#](#) [E#](#) [F#](#) [G#](#))

[Dulcimer tab](#) for this song is also available

I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier

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Experimental Mountain Dulcimer Tab

I've been experimenting with some code to produce simple mountain dulcimer tab for songs. This program doesn't do a great deal; it simply arranges the notes in the song across the strings. When it can't place the note on the strings anywhere, it produces an 'X' across all three strings. This program assumes you have a 6 1/2 fret, and notes it as '6*'.

This song appears to be in G. This program isn't smart enough to determine what mode it's in. Here are some popular modal tunings that should encompass that key (listed melody, middle, bass):

Ionian	Ionian	Ionian	Ionian
Dorian	Dorian	Dorian	Dorian
Phrygian	Phrygian	Phrygian	Phrygian
Lydian	Lydian	Lydian	Lydian
Myxolydian	Myxolydian	Myxolydian	Myxolydian
Aeolian	Aeolian	Aeolian	Aeolian
Locrian	Locrian	Locrian	Locrian

Or just enter your own tuning:

Melody: Middle: Bass:

This program currently won't transpose the song for you, but you can get a similar effect by telling it your strings are tuned differently.

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