

# Folk Song Portraits

## DUETS FOR PIANO

Arranged by Dennis Alexander

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### FOREWORD

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I HAVE KNOWN few people over the years who were not immediately attracted to the beauty, simplicity and humor of folk songs. Youngsters and adults alike will be delighted with these charming duet arrangements of some of the world's most favorite folk songs. Teachers will find them perfect for spicing up recitals, parents will love listening to them being practiced at home and teachers in colleges and universities will find them irresistible as supplementary material for group piano instruction. You will probably find yourself wanting to sing along with all of these arrangements. The words are also included, so have fun playing and singing together!

Dennis Alexander



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# Aura Lee

As the blackbird in the spring, 'neath the willow tree  
 Sat and piped, I heard him sing, singing Aura Lee.  
 Aura Lee, Aura Lee, maid of golden hair,  
 Sunshine came along with thee, and swallows in the air.

Andante ♩ = 92

The first system of musical notation for 'Aura Lee' consists of two staves. The upper staff is the right hand, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. It features a series of chords, with fingering numbers 5 and 1 indicated above the notes. The lower staff is the left hand, starting with a bass clef, the same key signature and time signature. It features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) and fingering numbers 5 and 4 indicated below the notes.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The upper staff has a measure starting with a boxed number '5' and a triplet of eighth notes. The lower staff continues the melodic line with a measure starting with a boxed number '4'.

The third system of musical notation continues the piece. The upper staff has a measure starting with a boxed number '9' and a triplet of eighth notes. The lower staff continues the melodic line with a measure starting with a boxed number '4'.

The fourth system of musical notation continues the piece. The upper staff features a series of eighth notes with a slur. The lower staff continues the melodic line with a measure starting with a boxed number '13' and fingering numbers 5 and 2 indicated below the notes.

The fifth system of musical notation continues the piece. The upper staff has a measure starting with a boxed number '17' and a triplet of eighth notes. The lower staff continues the melodic line with a measure starting with a boxed number '17' and a slur over the notes.

# Aura Lee

As the blackbird in the spring, 'neath the willow tree  
 Sat and piped, I heard him sing, singing Aura Lee.  
 Aura Lee, Aura Lee, maid of golden hair,  
 Sunshine came along with thee, and swallows in the air.

Andante ♩ = 92

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is Andante at 92 beats per minute. The first system shows the right hand playing a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) followed by a quarter note (C5), and the left hand playing a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) followed by a quarter note (B3). The dynamic marking is *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The right hand continues with a melodic line of eighth notes (C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6). The left hand provides a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) followed by a quarter note (B3). The dynamic marking is *mf*.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The right hand continues with a melodic line of eighth notes (C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6). The left hand provides a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) followed by a quarter note (B3). The dynamic marking is *mf*.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The right hand continues with a melodic line of eighth notes (C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6). The left hand provides a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) followed by a quarter note (B3). The dynamic marking is *f*.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The right hand continues with a melodic line of eighth notes (C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6). The left hand provides a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) followed by a quarter note (B3). The dynamic marking is *f*.