

## From the Arranger...

The history of the Irish folk song, *Shule Aroon*, is somewhat unclear. It may have originated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century or perhaps as early as the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but, as is typical of the genre, it appears in many versions and even has multiple spellings of its title.

It is usually sung from the point of view of a woman lamenting a lover who has joined the military. It describes her torment of being supportive and understanding of his decision despite her fear of losing him in battle. It could also refer to the loss of a man who has chosen exile rather than being forced to fight in the army.

The chorus is a blessing, with the last line often translated "...and a blessing walk with you, my love." The title may be translated as "Go, My Love" or "Walk! My Dear," each indicating the singer's strong support of her lover's decision despite her understandable concern for his safe return. Here is one translation of the chorus:

*Come, come, come, my love,  
Quickly come to me, softly move,  
Come to the door and away we'll flee,  
And safe forever may my darling be.*

It is not uncommon for Irish folk songs to have survived utilizing a mixture of languages, with the verses being in English and the chorus in Gaelic. There are many sounds in the Gaelic dialect that do not have an English equivalent. The Gaelic portion of the text in this arrangement has been written phonetically, but some sounds require further explanation as described below:

*Shule aroon;*

*Shule go sookar oggus shule go kewn.*

*sookar* – "oo" as in *book*.

*oggus* – sounds much like *August* (without the final *t*).

*kewn* – the vowel sound is placed toward the front of the mouth, as if saying a long *e* with the lips forming an *oo*. *like li*

*Shule go dorus oggus ehlee lom,*

*dorus* – the *o* is between a long *o* and a short *u*.

*like Doris the name*

*ehlee* – the first *e* is between a long *e* and a short *a*.

*like ä*

*lom* – the *o* is between a short *o* and a short *u*.

*like the o in oven*

*Iss guh jeh thoo mahvohrneen slawn.*

*jeh* – the starting consonant is between a *j* and a hard *ch* sound.

*a breathy ck*

*thoo* – the *th* is between our hard *th* and a hard *t* sound, as if saying a *th* but placing the tongue where you would say a *t*.

With a little practice, these sounds will become easy to produce and allow for an authentic presentation of this memorable Irish folk song. Have fun!

...Ruth Elaine Schram

# Shule Aroon

3

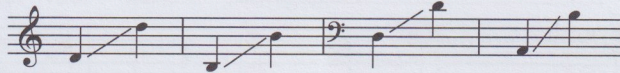
SATB Chorus and Piano with optional Violin\*

Traditional Irish

Tune: Siúil A Rún

Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

Ranges: Soprano Alto Tenor Bass



1 **Rubato** ♩ = ca. 76-69

5 SA **p** Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo - kar og - gus

6 TB **p** *N.B.*

7 Come Come Come my love Come quickly

-Vln.

8 **rit.**

9 2 **Rhythmically, with a Celtic lilt** ♩ = 108

shule go kewn.

10 **Rhythmically, with a Celtic lilt** ♩ = 108

Come softly

**mf** +Vln.

Duration: approx. 3:30

\*Violin part is available as a free download. Visit [www.lorenz.com](http://www.lorenz.com) and search 15/3183H.

Also available: SSA (15/3002H); Performance/Accompaniment CD (99/3052H).

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COME TO THE

DOOR AWAY

4

2 Bar Phrases

11 *mf* Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

2 bar -Vln.

WELL FLEE

14 shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

+Vln.

16 eh - lee lom, Iss guh

-Vln.

18 19 20 (mp) mf 5

3

jeh — thoo mah - voor - neen — slawn. — I —

(mp)

+Vln.

21 22

wish I were — on — yon - der — hill. 'Tis

-Vln. +Vln.

23 WARM VOWEL 24 WARM VOWEL

there I'd sit and cry my — fill, and

mf

24

4

27

25

ev - 'ry tear would turn a mill. I'd

-Vln. +Vln. -Vln.

28

29

30

sell my rod, I'd sell my reel; I'd sell my on - ly

Oo, Oo,

+Vln.

31

32

spin - ning wheel, to buy my love a

34

*(mp)*

*mf*

33

coat of steel. Iss guh

FOREVER MY DARLING  $\frac{3}{4}$  BE  $\text{\textcircled{5}}$

37

35

jeh thoo mah-vohr - neen slawn.

39

40

*mf*

38

Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

COME TO THE DOOR AND

60

42

41

shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

AWAY WE'LL FLEE

44

43

eh - lee lom, Iss guh

45

46

47

jeh thoo mah - voor - neen - slawn.

48 6 49 mf 50 NB. 9

> | = glottal stop

wish, > | wish, > |

+Vln. -Vln.

51 52 53

wish > in — vain; I wish > | had my heart a - gain, and

54 55 56 7

vain - ly think I'd — not com - plain.

+Vln.



57 *f* 58 59 *do*

Shule, shule, shule a - roon; shule go soo-kar og - gus

*f*

60 *b* *mf* *do*

shule go kewn. Shule go do - rus og - gus

*mf* -Vln.

62 *molto rall.* 63 64 *mp* Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76-69

eh - lee lom. Iss guh

*molto rall.* *mp* Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76-69

8  
Tempo II ♩ = 108

65

jeh thoo mah - voor - neen slawn.

Tempo II ♩ = 108

*mf* +Vln.

68

Shule, shule,

*f*

70

shule a - roon; shule go soo - kar og - gus



72

shule go kewn, shule go do - rus og - gus

*mf* *mf* *mf*

Handwritten annotations: *mf* in a box, *mf* in a box, *mf* in a box, *80* in red, a red box around the vocal line from measure 73 to 74.

74

eh - lee lom, Iss guh jeh thoo mah - Ah,

*molto rall.* *molto rall.* *mp* *mp*

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76-69

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 76-69

*mp* -Vln.

Handwritten annotations: *74* in blue, *77* in blue, *77* in blue, *mp* in a red circle, *mp* in a red circle, blue wavy lines with arrows pointing left, blue boxes around tempo markings.

78

voor neen ah. ah.

*rit.* *rit.* *rit.* *slavn.*

+Vln.

Handwritten annotations: *79* in blue, *81* in blue, blue wavy lines with arrows pointing left, blue boxes around *rit.* markings.