

# Redwing

Mills and Chattaway, 1907  
Arr. MH Samuels

The prolific songwriter, Kerry Mills (1869-1948), wrote "Redwing" in the early years of the Tin Pan Alley and published it in 1907, with lyrics by Thurland Chattaway. It was subtitled "An Indian Fable" or "An Indian Intermezzo." The song tells of a young Indian girl's loss of her love, who died in battle. It was a part of a craze for Native-American things in the early 20th century. Mills took the tune's verse from Robert Schumann's classical piano work, "The Happy Farmer, Returning from Work," published in the 1848 "Album for the Young, Opus 68." The song has been recorded many times; John Wayne sang parts in several movies. Woody Guthrie changed the words to: "There once was a union maid...." It was used in the movie, "Pulp Fiction." This tune, which is 32 measures long, is often played by fiddlers in square dances. Strum across all the strings.

**VERSE:**

1  
D A D

There once was an In - dian maid, A shy lit - tle prai - ire maid, Who

2 0 D0 3 1 G0 2 0 D0

0 0 0 0 2 4 0 3 3 5 7 5 4 2

6  
A7 1 D0 E1 A1

sang a \_\_\_ lay, a love song gay, As o'er the plain she'd while a - way the day. She

1 0 1 1 2 0 1 0 2 1 0

3 3 2 1 3 2 2 1 0 2 1 1 2 1

10  
D0 G0 D0

lov'd a war - rior bold, This shy lit - tle maid of old, But

0 0 3 0 0 3 0 0 3 3 5 7 5 4 2