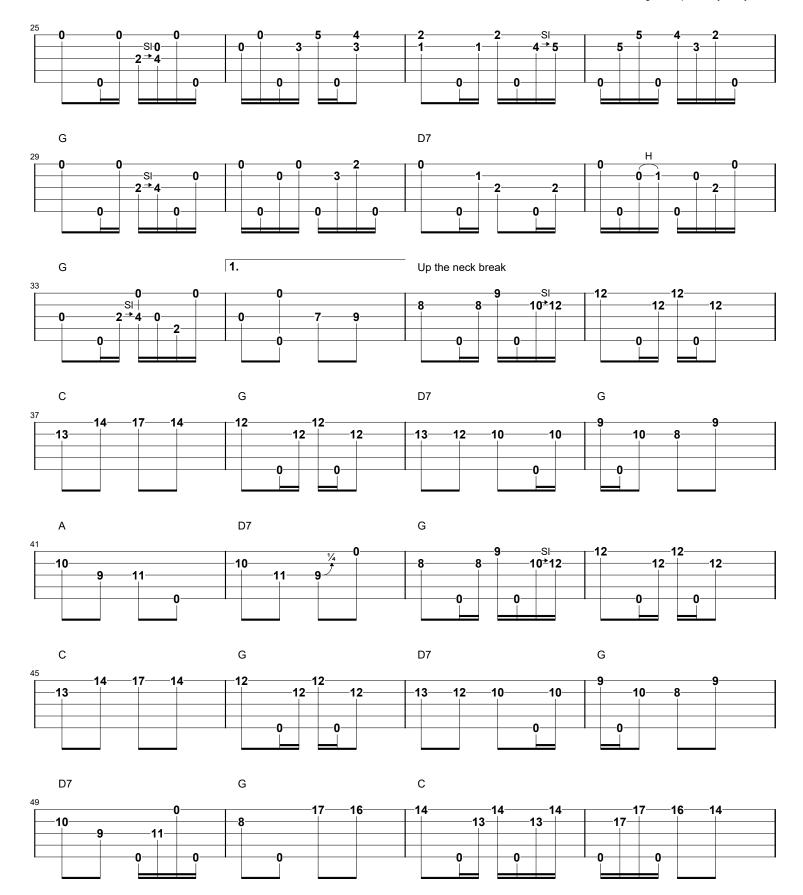
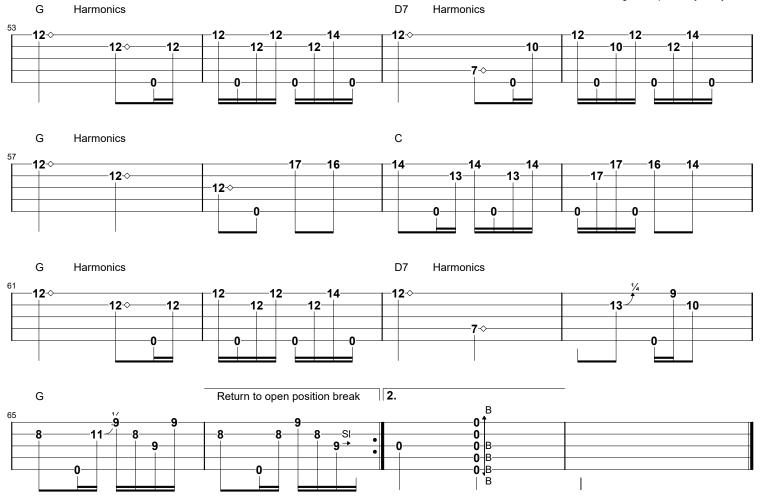
Red Wing Composed by Kerry Mills

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Red Wing was the most popular of a series of "Indian love songs" composed in late Victorian America, when all things Native American were the height of fashion, due to the enormous success of the recently published novel Hiawatha, in 1902. Written in 1907 by ragtime composer Kerry Mills, it is the tale of a Native American girl who loses her lover to war. Mills borrowed the melody from an older popular song written in 1858 by Robert Schumann, called The Happy Farmer Returning from Work. When performed as a vocal today, it is usually with the lyrics Woody Guthrie wrote for the tune in 1940, which he called Union Maid, pun intended.

There once was a union maid, Who never was afraid, Of the gooks and the ginks, And the company finks, And the sheriffs who made the raids...