

# Over the Waterfall

Traditional Arrangement (c) Copyright 2003, 2007 by Donald J. Borchelt.  
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D A7 D

2/4

A7 D A7 D

5

C 1. G 2. G D G

9

D A7 D G

13

D A7 1. D 2. D

17

G D A7 D

21

Over the Waterfall - Traditional

The image shows four systems of guitar tablature for the song "Over the Waterfall - Traditional". Each system consists of a single staff with six lines representing the guitar strings. Fingering numbers (1-4) are placed on the lines to indicate finger placement. Chord diagrams (A7, D, C, G, H, Po) are placed above the staff to indicate the chords being played. Measure numbers (25, 29, 33, 37) are placed at the beginning of each system. The first system (measures 25-28) has chords A7, D, C, and G. The second system (measures 29-32) has chords G, D, G, D, and A7. The third system (measures 33-36) has chords D, G, D, and A7. The fourth system (measures 37-39) has chords D, D, and D. The tablature includes various techniques such as slides (Sl), bends (H), and palm mutes (Po).

At one point some years ago, this tune made it into the bluegrass repertoire, and was played in just about every late night festival jam session. It was one of the handful of tunes that both bluegrass and old time players could pick together. In recent years, I don't hear it quite as often, but it's still a nice tune. D is the traditional key.

Over the Waterfall is modally ambiguous; it uses the major seventh note at the end of phrases, but uses the flatted seventh at a key point in the melody. Hell Among the Yearlings uses a similar melodic device, using the flatted seventh as a transition to the sub-dominant (the IV chord) tonality.