

Twin Sisters

Traditional

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Gm (Am) F (G) Gm (Am)

D
A
G
D
G

1. F (G) Gm (Am) 2. F (G) Gm (Am) F (G)

6

Gm (Am) F (G)

10

Gm (Am) F (G)

14

Gm (Am) 1. F (G) Gm (Am) 2. F (G) Gm (Am) F (G)

18

Gm (Am) F (G)

22

The musical score is written on a six-line staff for a banjo. It consists of five systems of music, each starting with a measure number (26, 30, 34, 38, 42). The notes are indicated by numbers 0-8 on the staff lines. Chord changes are indicated by letters above the staff: F (G), Gm (Am), and Gm (Am). A 'H' (hammer-on) is shown above the 10th fret in measure 27. Slurs and accents are used to indicate phrasing. A circled cross symbol is placed above the staff in measure 43. The score ends with a double bar line in measure 45.

This is a nice old-time tune in A modal that I picked up from listening to Reed Martin's "Old Time Banjo" CD. This is a completely different tune than the tune by the same name in D major. While it is sometimes characterized as Mixolydian, it is actually a hexatonic tune, with only six, rather than seven notes in the scale. It is missing the third degree of the scale, the note which- depending on whether it were a major or minor third- would allow it to be properly characterized as either Dorian or Mixolydian. Old time tunes are often modally ambiguous for lots of reasons, one of which, like here, is that there are not enough notes to tell. This tune is probably related to the old ballad about jealousy and murder which sometimes has the same name.