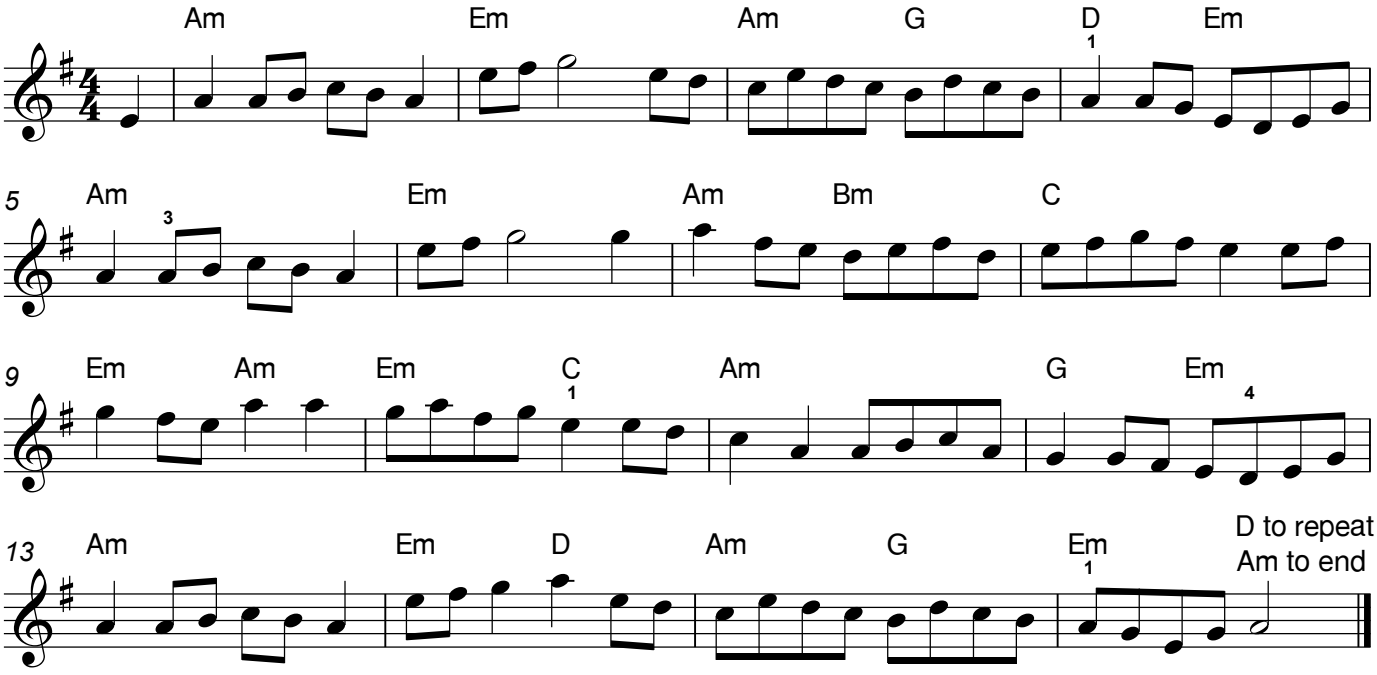
Ryb An Avon

(Beside the Water)

Melancholy Traditional Cornish



Ryb an Avon (pronounced approximately "rib on AH-von") is a traditional tune from Cornwall in Southwest England. Cornwall (Kernow) is one of the six major Celtic-language lands (Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall). This tune was collected in 1905 by Rev. Quintrell from a Mrs. J. Boaden of Cury, and was sent to English collectors G. Gardiner and L. Broadwood. Broadwood felt that the melody was a perfect fit to the English ballad "A Maid in Bedlam" (also known as "I Love My Love") and it was published as such. In this process, the Cornish title and words were lost. In the folk revival of the 1970s, Cornish musicians reclaimed the tune and renamed it "Ryb an Avon".

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