

KING OF THE FAIRIES

hornpipe: swung, bouncy
reel: straight, quick
air: freely, with feeling

Irish trad.

Em * D *

5 Em * D * 1. Em * 2. Em *

10 Em D * *

14 Em D Em

18 Em D Em * D Em * *

22 Em D Em *

King of the Fairies is a well-known traditional Irish tune. It can be played in a variety of styles, and be ornamented with accidentals, decorative figures, and triplets. This arrangement for lever harp is deliberately simple so that you can develop it as desired.

MEDLEY MIX-UP! Since about 2010, *King of the Fairies* has sometimes been mis-identified as *Colm Quigley*. A little research shows why: In 2009, best selling Canadian author Louise Penny released her book *The Brutal Telling*, number 5 in the wildly popular Inspector Gamache series. In the story, there is a memorable scene where a fiddler in a remote cabin plays a stunning "Celtic lament" called *Colm Quigley*. Of course, readers flocked to the internet to try to find and hear this tune. What they found was a medley called *Colm Quigley*, played by the Canadian family group Leahy. The medley opens with a long, expressive version of *King of the Fairies*, followed by a quick traditional tune *Compliments to Cameron Chisholm*, and ending with a blazing fast reel written and named by Donnell Leahy for his friend, accordionist Colm Quigley. Evidently Ms. Penny saw the name of the medley and assumed that the slow, haunting tune at the beginning was the title track!

* Some play these notes sharpened. If you encounter this in a session, set the first D and C levers above middle C to sharp. Watch your chords and drop D natural when it conflicts with the tune.