

AURA LEE

1861

Little is known about the writers of one of America's best known melodies. Who George Poulton was, or where he came from, no one seems to know. W. W. Fosdick, a poet and writer, was born in Cincinnati in 1825 and died in 1862.

There may be a bit of folk song in this melody; it was known in the early years of the 19th Century. It was certainly popular in Civil War days. In more recent times, Elvis Presley contributed additional words for this old favorite, and it surged to new heights of popularity as "Love Me Tender." It's an easy melody and perfect for close harmonizing.

Words by W. W. FOSDICK
(1825-1862)

Music by GEORGE R. POULTON
(1855-)

CHORUS 1:

Musical score for the chorus of "Aura Lee". The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "As the black-bird in the spring, 'neath the willow tree sat and piped, I heard him sing, sing of Aura Lee." The score includes measure numbers 1 through 8. Measure 3 contains a first ending bracket. Measure 8 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

As the black - bird in the spring, 'neath the wil - low tree
sat and piped, I heard him sing, sing of Au - ra Lee.

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8
 Au - ra Lee, Au - ra Lee, maid of gold - en hair, Sun - shine came a -

CHORUS 2:

8
 long with thee, and swal-lows in the air. On her cheek the rose was born, 'twas

8
 mu - sic when she spake. In her eyes the rays of morn with

8
 sud - den splen - dor break. Au - ra Lee, Au - ra Lee, maid of gold - en

8
 hair, Sun - shine came a - long with thee, and swal - lows in the air.