“High Falls of Cheat” was composed on fretted dulcimer, but it works well on other instruments, including the hammer dulcimer. On the fretted dulcimer it is played with left hand techniques particular to fretted instruments. The slurs shown between notes and groups of notes are to indicate notes and phrases played by hammering-on, pulling-off, and/or sliding on the fretted dulcimer. For other instruments, like the hammer dulcimer, ignore the slur markings. I use a four stringed fretted dulcimer tuned D’ D’ A D from the highest strings to the lowest. “High Falls of Cheat” is played as a fretted dulcimer solo on the CD Bucks And Does. On the CD Moonlight On The River it can be heard on acoustic/electric fretted dulcimer.

The High Falls of Cheat are legendary falls on the remote upper Shavers Fork of the Cheat River, which runs through some of the highest, most rugged, and beautiful country in West Virginia. I used to live near the Shavers Fork, which was the source of many canoeing adventures. For another fretted dulcimer piece played similarly, see “Maddie’s Garden.”