

# Patty In The Snowbank

Sam Rizzetta © 1997

The musical score is written in treble clef and begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 85. The key signature has one flat (F major/D minor). The score is divided into several sections:

- Section 1:** Starts with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket labeled 'A'. Chords: Am, A, G, Am.
- Section 2:** Chords: Am, Em, Am. Ends with a double bar line and the word 'End'. This is followed by a second ending bracket labeled 'B' in a 2/4 time signature. Chords: Am, G, Am.
- Section 3:** Chords: Am, G. Includes a section marked 'Improvise...' in a 5/4 time signature, followed by a 2/4 time signature section. Chords: Am, G.
- Section 4:** Chords: Am, G, Em, Am. Ends with a double bar line and a 'C' time signature. Chords: F, C.
- Section 5:** Chords: Dm, C, G, Em, Am.

I usually end on the A part with no repeat.

Patty Looman was a friend and musician who taught and inspired a great many dulcimer players. She carried on the West Virginia hammer dulcimer tradition passed down to us by Russell Fluharty and Worley Gardner. And she had an endless supply of old-time tunes in a jam session!

One day Patty and some friends visited my shop to look at new and old dulcimers. Her friends were joking and told me I needed to hear about Patty and the snowbank, an encounter that happened while Patty and friends were riding to a winter gig. The opportunity for a tune title was unavoidable. In the music you might hear the snowstorm, the skid, the thump into the snowbank. With a little more imagination you might also hear a helpful farmer with a tractor and, perhaps, a cup of hot chocolate to warm up.

Don't be put off by the 5/4 time in the A part. It is just like 4/4 with an extra beat at the end of each measure. A recorded version of "Patty In The Snowbank" is on the CD *Saving Trees*.