



# Sidewalks of New York

Tune in DAD

*melody*transcribed for the dulcimer  
by Joe Collins

**D A7 D G**

1 Down in front of Ca-sey's old brown wood - en

0	1	0	3	1	1
0	0	0	1	0	0
2	4	1	2	0	2

**D G D**

7 stoop, On a sum - mer's eve-ning we

0	3	0	1	0	2
0	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0

**E min A7 D A7**

13 formed a mer - ry group; Boys and girls to -

1	1	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	0	0	0
2	1	2	1	2	4

**D G D**

19 geth - er We would sing and waltz While

0	3	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0

**G D G E<sub>min</sub> G A<sub>7</sub>**

25 To - ny played the or - gan on the side-walks of New

3			0	0	1	3	3
1		1	0	1	1	1	2
0	1	0	0	0	3	2	2 1 X X

**D D Chorus A D**

31 York. East side, west side,

0		2		1	2
0		3		0	0
0		4	2	1	0

**G D G**

37 all a - round the town. The tots sang "ring - a -

3		0		3	
1	1 2	0		1	1
1	0	0	0	0 0	1 0

**D G E<sub>min</sub> A<sub>7</sub>**

43 ros - ie" "Lon - don Bridge is fall - ing down."

0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1
0	3	2	1

**D                      A7                      D                                      G**

49 Boys and girls to - geth - er; me and Ma-mie O' -

0	1	0		3	
0	0	0		1	1
2	4	1	2	0	0

**D                                      G                                      D                                      G**

55 Rourke Tripped the light fan - tas - tic on the

0		3		0	0
0		1	1	0	1
0		0	0	1	0

**E min                                      G                                      A7                                      D**

61 side - walks of New York

1		3	3	0	
1		1	2	0	
2	1	X	X	0	

Written in 1894, "The Sidewalks of New York" was immensely popular immediately after its composition by vaudeville actor and singer Charles B. Lawlor. The morning he composed the tune, he took it to James W. Blake, who was working in a local hat store. Blake told Lawlor to put the music down on paper, and he would begin writing lyrics for it. Twenty minutes later Lawlor returned with the music written out, and Lawlor had finished about half of the lyrics between customers. In another half hour, their song was completed.

The song recounts both of their memories of childhood in a somewhat idealized New York City. And the city really liked the tune and the lyrics. Before long, it was on the lips of adults and children throughout the city. It also got the attention of professional musicians and politicians who understood the power of nostalgia with audiences and voters.