Simple Gifts

DAd Tuning

Traditional Shaker hymn
arr. L. Collins

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free. 'Tis the gift to come round where we ought to be. And when we find our selves in the place just right, 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained, To bow and to bend we

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Tune: Simple Gifts

Notice the D.C. al Fine.

I usually play this tune with a gentle down stroke for each chord. I pick the single notes, anchoring the hand for accuracy.

**Anchoring:** In flat-picking, it is helpful to anchor the right hand so that you can use smaller muscles to pick single notes. Anchoring enables you to know where each string is, relative to your hand, which increases accuracy.

There are various ways to anchor your hand. Some folks place their ring or pinkie finger along the bass string edge of the fingerboard, at or near the top of the strum hollow. This anchoring spot is used in finger-picking.

When flat-picking, I prefer to anchor the heel of my hand just behind the bridge at the melody string corner and reach up the string to pick. Experiment to see which method you like best.