

Darling Nellie Gray

by Benjamin Russell Hanby (1856)

D *G*
There's a low green valley on the old Kentucky shore,

D *A7*
There I've whiled many happy hours away.

D^(1/2) *D7*^(1/2) *G*^(1/2) *Ddim7*^(1/2)
A sitting and a singing by the little cottage door,

D^(1/2) *A*^(1/2) *D*
where lived my darling Nellie Gray.

A7 *D*
Oh! My poor Nellie Gray, they have taken you away,

D^(3/4) *E7*^(1/4) *A*^(1/4) *E7*^(1/4) *A7*^(1/2)
And I'll never see my darling any more.

D^(1/2) *D7*^(1/2) *G*^(1/2) *Ddim7*^(1/2)
I'm a sitting by the river and I'm weeping all the day,

D^(1/2) *A*^(1/2) *D*
For you've gone from the old Kentucky shore.

One night I went to see her but "she's gone," the neighbors say,
The white man bound her with his chain,
They have taken her to Georgia for to wear her life away,
As she toils in the cotton and the cane.

Oh my poor Nellie Gray, they have taken you away
And I'll never see my darling any more.
I'm a sitting by the river and I'm weeping all the day,
For you've gone from the old Kentucky shore.

My eyes are getting blinded, and I cannot see the way
Hark! There's somebody knocking at the door
Oh! I hear the angels calling and I see my Nellie Gray
Farewell to the old Kentucky shore

Oh my darling Nellie Gray, up in heaven there they say
that they'll never take you from me any more
I'm a coming, coming, coming, as the angels clear the way
Farewell to the old Kentucky shore