

Dear Little Boy of Mine

music by Ernest Ball, lyrics by J. Keirn Brennan, 1918

Old lead sheets of public domain music are full of great tunes and great harmonies. Often they present opportunities to think enharmonically. Here's a good example from an old song with music by Ernest Ball.

You'll find the sheet music at <http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/sheetmusic/49/> and hear it <http://www.loc.gov/jukebox/recordings/detail/id/6959/>. Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra performed this.

The C dim chord that's circled here can more easily be played as a B# dim, not a chord most other instrumentalists would like to consider but on harp, this makes it easy. The D# and F# are already in place for the B chord so transpose the melody note "down one string", move one pedal (B to B#) and you're ready. Return to B natural for the Em following, then get the D natural and F natural as you play the G7.

Boy of mine, Boy of mine, Al- tho' my heart was
ach - ing — I seemed to know you'd want to go, Pride in your man-hood
wak - ing — I'll be here, wait - ing, dear, Till at a glad dawn
break - ing — I'll hear you say you're home to stay.
Dear lit - tle boy of mine Dear lit - tle boy of mine.

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The sheet music is for the song "Dear Little Boy of Mine" by Ernest Ball, with lyrics by J. Keirn Brennan, 1918. It features guitar chords written above the staff. The chords are: C, Am, Em, Dm, A7, Dm, G7, G+, Cdim, Em, G7, C, Em, Dm, A7, Dm, G7, G+, C, Dm, A7, Dm, G7, G+, C, G7, C. The Cdim chord is circled in red. The lyrics are: "Boy of mine, Boy of mine, Al- tho' my heart was ach - ing — I seemed to know you'd want to go, Pride in your man-hood wak - ing — I'll be here, wait - ing, dear, Till at a glad dawn break - ing — I'll hear you say you're home to stay. Dear lit - tle boy of mine Dear lit - tle boy of mine." The copyright notice at the bottom reads "Copyright 1918 by M. Witmark & Sons, N.Y."