

Long Boy

START

(Goodbye, Ma! Goodbye, Pa! Goodbye, Mule, with Yer Old Hee-Haw!)

G G C G G G A G G E F D D G G E
 He was just a long, lean country gink from way out west where the hop-

C C G G C G G G G A G G E F D D
 toads wink. He was six feet two in his stockin' feet an' kept gittin'

D G D E C C D D C C B A A B G G
 thinner th' more he'd eat. But he was as brave as he was thin,

D D D A G ♯ G D D D D C B A A B
 when the war broke out he got right in. Unhitch'd his plow put th' mule

G G D D E A G ♯ G C A G C A G
 away then th' old folks heard him say: Goodby Ma! Goodby Pa!

C A G E G E D D G C A G G G C A
 Goodby mule with yer old hee-haw! I may not know what th' war's a-

G E E F G G D E C C C D E F D
 bout, but you bet by gosh I'll soon find out. An' O my sweetheart

E F G E D E E F D D E F G G
 don't you fear, I'll bring you a king fer a souvenir. I'll

C A A G G G C A G E F F D D G
 git you a Turk an' a Kaiser too, an' that's about all one

E D C C END
 feller could do!

Lyrics

Verse 1:

He was just a long, lean country gink from way out west where the hop-toads wink.
He was six feet two in his stockin' feet an' kept gittin' thinner th' more he'd eat.
But he was as brave as he was thin, when the war broke out he got right in.
Unhitch'd his plow put th' mule away then th' old folks heard him say:

Refrain:

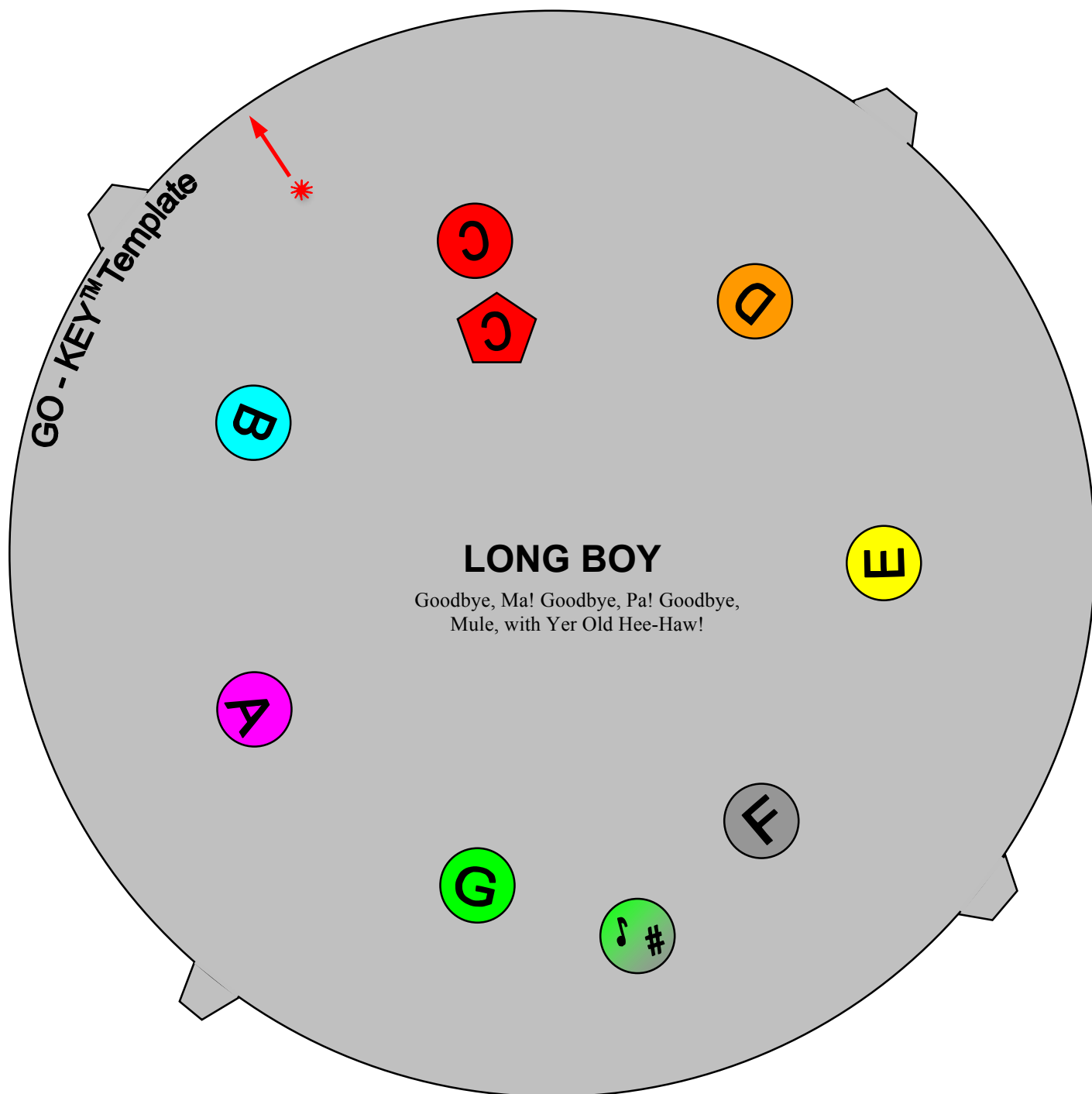
Goodby Ma! Goodby Pa! Goodby mule with yer old hee-haw!
I may not know what th' war's about, but you bet by gosh I'll soon find out.
An' O my sweetheart don't you fear, I'll bring you a king fer a souvenir.
I'll git you a Turk an' a Kaiser too, an' that's about all one feller could do!

Verse 2:

One pair of socks was his only load when he struck fer town by th' old dirt road.
He went right down to th' public square an' fell in line with th' soldiers there.
Th' sergeant put him in uniform, his gal knit mitts fer to kim him warm.
They drill'd him hard, they drill'd him long, then they sang his farewell song!

Refrain:

Goodby Ma! Goodby Pa! Goodby mule with yer old hee-haw!
I may not know what th' war's about, but you bet by gosh I'll soon find out.
An' O my sweetheart don't you fear, I'll bring you a king fer a souvenir.
I'll git you a Turk an' a Kaiser too, an' that's about all one feller could do!



History and Origin

"Goodbye, Ma! Goodbye, Pa! Goodbye, Mule, with Yer Old Hee-Haw!", also known as **"Long Boy"**, is a World War I era song released in 1917. William Herschel wrote the lyrics. Barclay Walker composed the music. It was published by Shapiro, Bernstein & Co. of New York, New York. Garr Williams designed the sheet music cover. It features a morose-looking cartoon soldier leaving his farm. Farm animals, the soldier's parents, and his girlfriend look on and wave flags. It was written for both voice and piano.

The lyrics take on a humorous tone. It tells the story of a very thin "country gink," who leaves his farm duties behind to enlist in the army. The chorus is his farewell to his parents and "sweetheart".