

Across the Empty Quarter

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The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 3/4 time, featuring a key signature of one flat (Bb). The piece is marked 'Air' and consists of nine staves of music. The melody is characterized by a mix of eighth and quarter notes, often with a triplet feel. Chord symbols are placed above the staff to indicate the harmonic accompaniment. The chords used include Dm, Gm, A, Em°, A7, and E9. The score begins with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over the notes) in the fourth, sixth, and eighth staves.

The Rub' al Khali ("the Empty Quarter") is the largest contiguous sand desert in the world. It encompasses most of the southern third of the Arabian Peninsula and covers some 250,000 square miles (that's about the size of Texas) and includes parts of Saudi Arabia, Oman, the UAE, and Yemen—and it is but part of the larger Arabian Desert. This tune imagines traveling on camel across this huge empty expanse.