The Thrill of Embarkation

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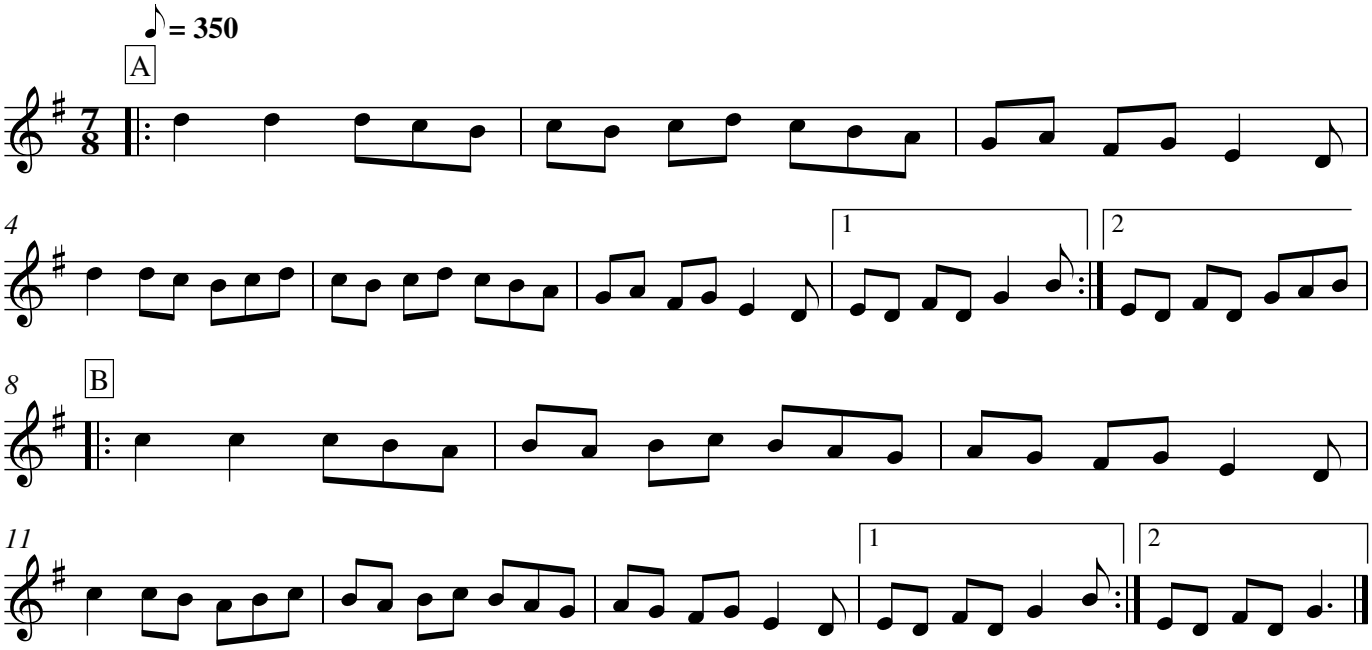

Discography: Ben Paley, "Notes from the Skirting Board", 2020

Notes: I wrote this in 2020 to celebrate the birth of my first granddaughter, Andie. Obviously: babies love 7/8, don't they? Seriously though, as time signatures go, 7/8 divided 2-2-3 has got so much forward momentum, I pictured Andie sort of half toppling over herself as she ran down the gangplank into life. And yes, I know that's disembarkation. Stop being so pedantic.

To continue the theme of sevens, each part has seven bars: three bars repeated then a seventh bar to round it off. If you strip away the variations and frills, the underlying melody is very simple.

Hear me playing the track on my Bandcamp page on the album "Notes from the Skirting Board", mostly on mandolins and viola, I think.