

# S'onu stranu Jajca

— Beyond Jajce —

Bosnia

$\text{♩} = 68$

S' - o - nu - stra - nu Jaj - ca  
Mom - će - tuž - no pla - će,

gaj - tan - tra - va ra - ste.  
još - tuž - ni - je je - či:

Po - njoj pa - su ov - ce,  
“Sva - ka tu - đa ze - mlja

ču - va - lo ih mom - će.  
tu - ga je go - le - ma.”

Beyond Jajce the grass grows thick as silken tassles.

Sheep are grazing there, tended by a young lad.

The lad is weeping sadly, and still more sadly sobbing:

“It’s very sad to be in any foreign land.”

From **Dick Crum**: Jajce is situated at the confluence of the Pliva and Vrbas rivers in Bosnia. (Some variants of this song begin *S'onu stranu Plive...*, ‘Beyond the Pliva...’). The song has been a favorite for generations, not only in its home area, but throughout former Yugoslavia, and has even become a standard in the repertoires of kafana singers and recording artists.

Bosnian ethnomusicologist Cvjetko Rihtman documented a number of variants of *S'onu stranu Jajca* from around Jajce itself, and traced its tune to an old dervish *ilâhi*, ‘divine or godly chant’ with Turkish words, From the *tekke* (dervish convent), the melody moved out into the world and developed secular lyrics in Serbo-Croatian. (See Cvjetko Rihtman: *Narodna muzika jajačkog sreza* [Folk music of the district of Jajce], in *Bilten Instituta za proučavanje folklor*, Vol. 2, Sarajevo, 1953, p. 9.)