

## Andy Mackie Sunshine

Words & Music by Robert L. Force  
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D G D  
Now Andy Mackie he came from Scotland far from his Highland hills to roam  
G D A5 D  
Came to wrestle steers but before long it was clear that this country would be his new home

For forty years strong and hard working he ran big ranches 'cross this land  
Yet nearly every day he'd take the time to play his old Hohner Marine Band

Late at night when the stars were shining and the moon hung silver in the sky  
Softly he would play those songs from yesterday so sweet it made the angels cry

You are my sunshine-- my only sunshine-- and you make me happy when those skies are grey  
You'll never know my dears how much I love you. Don't ever let them take that sunshine away

Then one day the doc said to Andy, I'm afraid your race is nearly run  
I can keep you alive maybe one year maybe five but your time on this earth is nearly done

Now wait a minute, said Andy, It's not supposed to be this way  
My race can't be run, oh no my life can't be done, I haven't taught anyone how to play

Well I'm sorry but your heart won't make it. It's weak and failing fast  
I can give you some pills and maybe run up your bills but every breath you take might be your last

Late that night as Andy lay sleeping an angel slipped into his dreams  
Before he could awaken said, if I'm not mistaken there's one more job left for you in Quilcene

And in the morning that angel's footsteps were still lingering in his mind  
Started out that day to teach the kids to play you are my only sunshine

Yes you are my sunshine-- my only sunshine-- you make me happy-- skies are grey  
You'll never know, my dears, how much I love you, don't ever let them take that sunshine away

That's why every single kid that's down in Quilcene is learning harmonica today  
Honking and wheezing, sucking and blowing, learning that old Andy Mackie way

And they are singing about sunshine-- that only sunshine-- about those cloudy skies when they are grey  
And they all know that once that sun has risen, ain't no one ever going to take that sunshine away

And late at night, when the stars are shining and the moon hangs silver in the sky  
Softly they play those songs from yesterday so sweet, it makes the angels cry

You are my sunshine-- my only sunshine-- and you make me happy when skies are grey  
You'll never know, my dears, just how much I love you, don't ever let them take that sunshine away

The tune is loosely built around the "You Are My Sunshine" chord progression. For those plying on dulcimers a lot of movement is created by moving back and forth between open D (0-0-0 ) and 0-0-2 D using small slides and hammer ons.