Black, Black, Black Is The Color Of My True Love's Hair

Appalachian Folk Tune
Arranged by **Grant M. Goulding**

Just as music theorist throughout the years have analyzed great works by composers such as Mozart and Beethoven, this TagAnalysis template is used to analyze great Tags. If possible, what makes this Tag beautiful, interesting, and/or awesome?

Item	Category	Description
1.	TagAnalysis by – Name and Date	Darwin Scheel, 05/16/2012
2.	Title, Abbreviated Title, and/or Nickname	Black is the Color
3.	The Words Are…	Black, Black, Black is The Color of My True Love's Hair
4.	Composer and/or Music & Lyricist, and Year	"Black Is the Colour (of My True Love's Hair)" (Roud 3103) is a traditional folk song first known in the Appalachian Mountains region of the United States in 1915, but most probably originating from Scotland, as attributed to the reference to the Clyde in the song's lyrics. The musicologist Alan Lomax supported this Scottish origin saying the song was an American "re-make of British materials." The first recording was made by Mrs. Lizzie Roberts in 1916 as "Black Is The Colour". (http://www.originals.be/nl/originals.php?id=9969)
5.	Arranger and Year	Grant M. Goulding, 2010.
6.	**TagAnalysis Summary**	This is a beautiful minor sounding Tag with a familiar melody and words, the Tag is short, and has simple, easy individual parts to learn. This is modern Tag with a beautiful major seventh chord on the third word "black", a surprise 9th chord on the word "true", and another pleasing and surprising dominant 7 chord on the word "loves" then finally, going into a Picardy 3rd tonic A.

Detailed Analysis

Item	Category	Description
7.	Made Famous By (well-known quartet)	An original Tag.
8.	Intro, Middle, or Tag	Tag.
9.	Tag Length – Short, Med, or Long	Short.
10.	Difficulty – Easy, Med, or Hard	Med
11.	Key Written In	A minor.
12.	Primarily Tempo, Ballad, or both	Ballad
13.	Primarily Homophonic or Contrapuntal	Homophonic
14.	Starting Note, Octave, Duet, or Chord (with reference to the key)	Unison key note A; key of a minor.
15.	Teaching order of Parts and why	Lead, Bass, Tenor, Bari. Start with the Lead part first as it is the melody. Once the Lead part has been learned, teach the Bass part next with the Lead quietly singing along in the background; the Bass provides the foundation and have many consonant intervals with the Lead. When the

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		Bass part has been learned, teach the Tenor part with the Lead and Bass quietly singing along. Then teach the Bari part with the other three parts quietly singing in the background; the Bari is taught last because of the dissonance created between the Tenor/Bari on "color" and the major 2nd between the Lead/Bass. This teaching process allows parts to rehearse their part and not forget their part as others are learning their part.
16.	How Many Parts	Four.
17.	Flavor – Barbershop/Modern	Modern.
18.	Type – Barbershop, Sweet Adelines, SATB, Other Male, Other Female, or Other Mixed	Other mixed.
19.	Tag Version – Compared to Original	This is the original.
20.	Familiar Melody – Yes/No	Yes.
21.	Familiar Words – Yes/No	Yes.
22.	Melody – Primarily which Part	Lead.
23.	Pick-up Notes – Yes/No	No.
24.	The First Chord Identified	A7 chord with a missing 5th; from the bottom up, G, A, C.
25.	Major, Minor, or Both	Minor.
26.	Key Change – Yes/No	No.
27.	Picardy Third – Yes/No	Yes.
28.	Featured Chords	1. The third word "black", a Major 7 chord in root position with the Lead above the Tenor on the major 7; F, A, C, E. 2. The first syllable of the word "co – lor", a D minor 9 chord; D, F, A. E. Not only do we have the ninth interval between the Tenor and Bass, we also have a major seventh interval between the Tenor and Bari; this makes for a very colorful chord that is very fitting for the word "color". 3. The word "true", a G 9 chord; from the bottom up, G, A, B, D. 4. A dominant G^{7} chord on the word "loves".
29.	Featured Chord Progressions	The unison peel off to the major 7th chord; "black, black, black" and of my true loves hair".
30.	Beautiful Melody – Yes/No	Yes.
31.	Cool Rhythm – Yes/No	No.
32.	Awesome Lyrics – Yes/No	Yes.
33.	Other than the first chord, are there any unisons or unison octaves or octaves – Yes/No	The Tenor/Bass have an octave on the word "the" and second syllable of the word "co – **lor**". The Tenor/Bass have a two octave interval on the tonic A.
34.	Any posting – which Part(s)	No.
35.	Rangy – Yes/No	No.
36.	Motive – Yes/No	No.
37.	Any Suspensions – Yes/No	No.
38.	Ending Note, Octave, Duet, Chord,	Two octave tonic chord; from the bottom up, Bass - A, Lead - E, Bari - C, Tenor - A.
39.	Optional Notes – Yes/No	No.
40.	Optional Parts – Yes/No	No.
41.	Solo, and/or Feature – Yes/No	No.
42.	Bell Chord or Part Entrance – Yes/No	No.
43.	Swipes – Yes/No	No.
44.	Echo's – Yes/No	No.
45.	Comments	