Melodies are Made of This...

(Autoharp Melody Playing)

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There are a couple of components to melody picking. First, you have to push down the right chord bar button with your left hand. And second, you have to pluck a small number of strings at the right part of the string bed.

Melody playing can be approached in two ways. First, you can just strum the progression of chords that the melody of the tune suggests, then develop a "pinch" with your long finger aiming at the note you want and your thumb picking up two or three harmony notes below. Then you can gradually refine your "aim" to hit the correct note of the chord to produce the melody. Try this with "Ode to Joy":

