The Thousand Good Songs

2022

This songbook belongs to



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1 Wild Mountain Thyme

Oh the summer time is comin' G D And the trees are sweetly bloomin' G D Bm And the wild mountain thyme Em G Grows around the bloomin' heather D G D Will you go, lassie, go?

 $\begin{array}{cccc} G & D \\ \text{And we'll all go together} \\ G & D & Bm \\ \text{To pluck wild mountain thyme} \\ Em & G \\ \text{All around the bloomin' heather} \\ D & G & D \\ \text{Will you go, lassie, go?} \end{array}$

I will build my love a bower By yon pure crystal fountain And on it I will pile All the flowers of the mountain Will you go, lassie, go?

(Chorus)

If my true love she were gone I'd surely find another Where the wild mountain thyme Grows around the bloomin' heather Will you go, lassie, go?

(Chorus)

I will roam through the wild and the deep glens so dreary and return with my spoils, to the bower of my dearie Will you go, Lassie, go?

(Chorus)

2 The Minstrel Boy

The minstrel boy to the war is gone, In the ranks of death you'll find him His father's sword he hath girded on, And his wild harp slung behind him

"Land of Song!" cried the warrior bard, (Should) "Tho' all the world betrays thee, One sword, at least, thy rights shall guard, One faithful harp shall praise thee!"

The Minstrel fell! But the foeman's chain Could not bring that proud soul under The harp he loved ne'er spoke again, For he tore its chords asunder

And said "No chains shall sully thee, Thou soul of love and bravery! Thy songs were made for the pure and free They shall never sound in slavery!

3 Fields of Athenry

D G D Bm

[Chorus] Low lie the fields of Athen—ry
D
Where once we watched the (*Bm) small
A
free birds fly
D G
Our love was on the wing
D A
We had dreams and songs to sing
Em A D
It's so lonely round the fields of Athen—ry

By a lonely prison wall, I heard a young man calling
Nothing matters, Mary, when you're free
Against the famine and the crown,
I rebelled, they cut me down
Now you must raise our child with dignity
[Chorus]
By a lonely harbor wall, she watched the last star fall
As the prison ship sailed out against the sky
For she lived to hope and pray for her love in
Botany Bay

It's so lonely round the fields of Athenry

[Chorus]

4 Rising of the moon

And come tell me Sean O'Farrell, tell me why you hurry so

G

D

A

Husha buachaill hush and listen and his cheeks D were all a glow

I bear orders from the captain, get you ready quick and soon

For the pikes must be together by the rising of D the moon

(Chorus)

By the rising of the moon, by the rising of the moon

G D AFor the pikes must be together by the rising Dof the moon

And come tell me Sean O'Farrell, where the gath'rin is to be

At the old spot by the river quite well known to you and me

One more word for signal token, whistle out the marchin' tune

With your pike upon your shoulder by the rising of the moon

(Chorus)

By the rising of the moon, by the rising of the moon

With your pike upon your shoulder by the rising of the moon

Out from many a mud wall cabin eyes were watching through the night

Many a manly heart was beating for the blessed warning light

Murmurs rang along the valleys to the banshees lonely croon

And a thousand pikes were flashing by the rising of the moon

(Chorus)

By the rising of the moon, by the rising of the moon

And a thousand pikes were flashing by the rising of the moon

All along that singing river that black mass of men was seen

High above their shining weapons flew their own beloved green

Death to every foe and traitor! Whistle out the marching tune

And hoorah, me boys, for freedom, 'tis the rising of the moon

(Chorus)

Tis the rising of the moon, 'tis the rising of the moon

And hurrah, me boys, for freedom, 'tis the rising of the moon

5 Leaving of Liverpool

Fare—well to you, my own true love, GI am going far, far a—way $C \qquad F \qquad C$ I am bound for Cali—forni—a, $G \qquad C$ And I know that I'll return someday

(Chorus) So fare thee well, my own true C love,

For when I return, united we will be

C

It's not the leaving of Liverpool that grieves

C
me,

But my darling when I think of thee.

I have shipped on a Yankee sailing ship, Davy Crockett is her name, And Burgess is the Captain of her, And they say that she's a floating hell (Chorus) Oh the sun is on the harbour, love, And I wish that I could remain, For I know that it will be a long, long time, Before I see you again (Chorus)

6 Gypsy Rover (Whistlin Gypsy)

GAh dee do, ah dee do da day G G C DAh dee do, ah dee day dee G Am D EmHe whistled and he sang till the green woods rang G Am D GAnd he won the heart of a la—dy

She left her father's castle gate She left her own fond lover, left her servants And estate To follow the gypsy rover (Chorus) Her father saddled his fastest steed Roamed these valleys all over Sought his daughter at break neck speed And the whistlin' gypsy rover (Chorus) he came at last to a mansion fine Down by the river Claydee And there was music and there was wine For the gypsy and his lady (Chorus) "He is no gypsy, my father", she said But Lord of these lands all over And I will stay till my dying day With the whistlin' gypsy rover

7 Wagon Wheel

G
Heading down south to the land of the pines
Em
C
I'm thumbing my way into North Carolina
Staring up the road and pray to God I see
headlights
I made it down the coast in seventeen hours
Picking me a bouquet of dogwood flowers
And I'm a-hopin' for Raleigh, I can see my baby
tonight

G D
So rock me momma like a wagon wheel
Em C
Rock me momma any way you feel
Hey momma rock me
Rock me momma like the wind and the rain
Rock me momma like a south bound train
Hey momma rock me

Running from the cold up in New England I was born to be a fiddler in an old time string band

My baby plays a guitar, I pick a banjo now Oh, north country winters keep a—getting me down

Lost my money playing poker so I had to leave town

But I ain't turning back to living that old life no more

(Chorus)

Walkin' to the south out of Roanoke

I caught a trucker out of Philly had a nice long talk

But he's a–heading west from the Cumberland gap

To Johnson City, Tennessee

I gotta get a move on before the sun

I hear my baby calling my name and I know that she's the only one

And if I die in Raleigh at least I will die free (Chorus 2x)

8 Rose Red Round

Rose, Rose, Rose red, Shall I ever see thee wed? I will marry at thy will, sire At thy will.

Ding ding ding dong Wedding bells on an April morn' Carve your name on a moss covered stone On a moss covered stone.

Heigh-ho, nobody home Meat, nor drink, nor money have I none. Yet I will be merry. Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho.

Little bird Take thy flight, High above the sorrows Of this dark night.

9 Molly Malone

G Em In Dublin's fair city $\begin{array}{ccc} Am & D \\ \text{Where the girls are so pretty} \end{array}$ As she wheeled her wheel—barrow Αm Through the streets broad and narrow Grying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh" GGAlive, alive, oh Am D Alive, alive, oh G Em/C D G Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh" She was a fishmonger And sure, t'was no wonder For so were her mother and father before And they wheeled their barrow Through the streets broad and narrow Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh" (Refrain) She died of a fever And sure, so one could save her And that was the end of sweet Molly Malone Now her ghost wheels her barrow Through the streets broad and narrow Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh" (Refrain 2x)

10 Swing low

(Chorus) Swing low, sweet chariot Coming for to carry me home Swing low, sweet chariot Coming for to carry he home

I looked over Jordan and what did I see Coming for to carry he home A band of angels coming after me Coming for to carry me home (Chorus)

If you get there before I do Coming for to carry me home Tell all my friends I'm coming too Coming for to carry me home

11 The Wild Rover

GI've been a wild rover for many's the year G D Gand I've spent all my money on whiskey and beer. GBut now I'm returning with gold in great store G G Gand I never will play the wild rover no more

(Chorus) And it's no, nay, never, no, nay, Cnever, no more Gwill I play the wild rover Gno, never, no more

I went into an ale—house I used to frequent and I told the landlady my money was spent. I asked her for credit, she answered me nay, Such a custom like yours I can have any day

(Chorus)

Then out of me pocket I took sovereigns bright and the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight. She said I'd have whiskey and wines of the best and the words that she told me were only in jest.

(Chorus)

I'll go home to my parents, confess what I've done,

and I'll ask them to pard on their prodigal son. And when they've caressed me as oft' times before then I never will play the wild rover no more

(Chorus)

12 Charlie on the M.T.A.

- Well, let me tell you of the story of a man named Charley on a tragic and fateful day
- He put ten cents in his pocket, kissed his wife and family, went to ride on the M.T.A.
- Well, did he ever return? No, he never returned and his fate is still unknown
- (What a pity! Poor ole Charlie. Shame and scandal. He may ride forever. Just like Paul Revere)
- He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned
- Charlie handed in his dime at the Kendall Square Station and he changed for Jamaica Plain
- When he got there the conductor told him, "One more nickel." Charlie couldn't get off of that train
- Well, did he ever return? No, he never returned and his fate is still unknown
- (What a pity! Poor ole Charlie. Shame and scandal. He may ride forever. Just like Paul Revere)
- He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned
- Now, all night long Charlie rides through the station, crying, "What will become of me?!
- How can I afford to see my sister in Chelsea or my cousin in Rocksbury?"
- Well, did he ever return? No, he never returned and his fate is still unknown
- (What a pity! Poor ole Charlie. Shame and scandal. He may ride forever. Just like Paul Revere)
- He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned
- Charlie's wife goes down to the Sculley Square Station every day at quarter past two
- And through the open window she hands Charlie a sandwich as the train comes rumblin' through

- Well, did he ever return? No, he never returned and his fate is still unknown
- (What a pity! Poor ole Charlie. Shame and scandal. He may ride forever. Just like Paul Revere)
- He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned
- Now, you citizens of Boston, don't you think it's a scandal how the people have to pay and pay?
- Fight the fare increase! Vote for George O'Brien! Get poor Charlie off the M.T.A.
- Well, did he ever return? No, he never returned and his fate is still unknown
- (What a pity! Poor ole Charlie. Shame and scandal. He may ride forever. Just like Paul Revere)
- He may ride forever 'neath the streets of Boston. He's the man who never returned
- He's the man who never returned. He's the man who never returned
- E tu, Charlie?

13 *My Comrade*

Fighting bravely in the battle Galloping on and on, Riding in the ranks of horsemen Thou wert my dearest comrade Thou the one I loved the most, (x2)

An arrogant Cavalier
The strongest of his corps
Lunged at me in thirst of blood
But thy faithful love showed no fear
And thy heart the lance did find (x2)

I've avenged this mortal wound That thou received in my stead Deep and deep into the dark of night I have wept for thee my comrade Kneeling by thy holy grave, (x2)

In my sadness, how I wander Without meaning I must ride From this o so deadly ambush I have lost my dearest comrade I will never laugh again, (x2)

O prince pray thee, hear my ballade Listen to my pleading call I pray God who loves the soldier To quickly place him, my comrade, At the right of Christ the Lord, (x2)

14 The Rattlin' Bog

(Chorus) Ho, ro, the rattlin' bog G DThe bog down in the valley-o G CHo, ro, the rattlin' bog G D GThe bog down in the valley-o

G In that bog there was a tree A rare tree, a rattlin' tree $\ensuremath{\mathcal{G}}$ The tree in the bog In the bog down in the valley-o (Chorus) And on that tree there was a limb A rare limb, a rattlin' limb The limb on the tree... (Chorus) And on that limb there was a branch A rare branch, a rattlin' branch The branch on the limb.. (Chorus) And on that branch there was a twig A rare twig, a rattlin' twig The twig on the branch... (Chorus) And on that twig there was a nest A rare nest, a rattlin' nest The nest on the twig... (Chorus) And in that nest there was an egg A rare egg, a rattlin' egg The egg in the nest... (Chorus) And on that egg there was a bird A rare bird, a rattlin' bird The bird on the egg... (Chorus) And on that bird there was a feather A rare feather, a rattlin' feather The feather on the bird... (Chorus) And on that feather there was a flea A rare flea, a rattlin' flea The flea in the feather... (Chorus)

15 Auld Lang Syne

 $\begin{array}{cccc} C & G \\ \text{Should auld acquaintance be forgot,} \\ Am & F \\ \text{And never brought to mind} \\ C & G \\ \text{Should auld acquaintance be forgot,} \\ F & G & C \\ \text{And auld lang syne!} \end{array}$

And surely ye'll be your pint' stowp, And surely I'll be mine, And we 'll take a cup o' kindness yet For auld lang syne! (Chorus) We two hae run about the braes, And pou'd the gowans fine, But we 've wander'd monie a weary fit Sin' auld lang syne. (Chorus) We two hae paidl'd in the burn Frae morning sun till dine, But seas between us braid hae roar'd Sin' auld lang syne. (Chorus) And there's a hand, my trusty fiere, And gie 's a hand o' thine, And we'll tak a right guid-willie waught For auld lang syne!

16 Carrickfergus

> My childhood days bring back sad reflections Of happy times there spent so long ago My boyhood friends and my own relations Have all past on now with the melting snow So I'll spend my days in this endless roving Soft is the grass, my bed is free Oh to be home now in carrickfergus On the long rode down to the salty sea

> Now in Kilkenny it is reported On marble stone there as black as ink With gold and silver I would support her But I'll sing no more now til I get a drink Cause I'm drunk today and I'm seldom sober A handsome rover from town to town Ah but I'm sick now my days are numbered Come all me young lads and lay me down.

Song of the Pelagian Heresy for the Strengthening of Men's Backs and the very Robust Out-thrusting of Doubtful Doctrine and the Uncertain Intellectual

Pelagius lived at Kardanoel
And taught a doctrine there
How, whether you went to heaven or to hell
It was your own affair.
How whether you rose to eternal joy,
Or sank forever to burn,
It had nothing to do with the Church, my boy,
But was your own concern.

No, he didn't believe
In Adam and Eve
He put no faith therein!
His doubts began
With the Fall of Man
And he laughed at Original Sin.
With my row-ti-tow
Ti-oodly-ow
He laughed at original sin.

Then came the bishop of old Auxerre Germanus was his name
He tore great handfuls out of his hair
And he called Pelagius shame.
And with his stout Episcopal staff
So thoroughly whacked and banged
The heretics all, both short and tall—
They rather had been hanged.

Oh he whacked them hard, and he whacked them long
Upon each and all occasions
Till they bellowed in chorus, loud and strong
Their orthodox persuasions.
With my row-ti-tow
Ti-oodly-ow
Their orthodox persuasions.

Now the faith is old and the Devil bold Exceedingly bold indeed.
And the masses of doubt that are floating about Would smother a mortal creed.
But we that sit in a sturdy youth And still can drink strong ale
Let us put it away to infallible truth That always shall prevail.

And thank the Lord For the temporal sword And howling heretics too. And all good things Our Christendom brings But especially barley brew! With my row-ti-tow Ti-oodly-ow Especially barley brew!

18 The Green Fields Of France

Oh how do you do, young Willy Mc—Bride GDo you mind if I sit here down by your Dgrave—side $Bm \qquad G \qquad A$ And rest for a while in the warm summer sun GI've been walking all day, and I'm nearly done $Bm \qquad G$ And I see by your gravestone you were only $Em \qquad \text{nine—teen} \qquad A \qquad G \qquad A$ When you joined the great fallen in 19—16 $D \qquad Bm$ Well I hope you died quick $G \qquad Em$ And I hope you died clean $G \qquad C$ Or Willy McBride, was is it slow and obscene

(Chorus) Did they beat the drums slowly

G
D
Did they play the fife lowly

A
Did they sound the death march as they

G
A
lowered you down

G
D
D
D
Did the band play the last post and chorus

Bm
G
Did the pipes play the flowers of the

A
D
for—est

And did you leave a wife or a sweetheart behind In some loyal heart is your memory enshrined And though you died back in 1916
To that loyal heart you're forever nineteen
Or are you a stranger without even a name
Forever enshrined behind some old glass pane
In an old photograph torn, tattered, and stained And faded to yellow in a brown leather frame (Chorus)

The sun shining down on these green fields of France

The warm wind blows gently and the red poppies dance

The trenches have vanished long under the plow No gas, no barbed wire, no guns firing now But here in this graveyard that's still no mans land

The countless white crosses in mute witness stand To man's blind indifference to his fellow man And a whole generation were butchered and damned

(Chorus)

And I can't help but wonder oh Willy McBride Do all those who lie here know why they died Did you really believe them when they told you the cause

Did you really believe that this war would end wars

Well the suffering, the sorrow, the glory, the shame

The killing and dying it was all done in vain Oh Willy McBride it all happened again And again, and again, and again, and again (Chorus)

19 Tell Me Ma

(Chorus) O Tell me ma when I go home D GThe boys won't leave the girls alone G C GThey pull my hair, they stole my comb D GBut that's all right till I go home CShe is handsome, she is pretty CShe is the belle of Belfast city CShe is a-courting one two three CPray, would you tell me who is she

Albert Mooney says he loves her
All the boys are fighting for her
Knock at the door and they ring that bell
Oh my true love, are you well
Out she comes as white as snow
Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes
Old Jenny Murray says she will die
If she doesn't get the fella with the roving eye
(Refrain)

Let the wind and the rain and the hail blow high And the snow come toppling from the sky She's as sweet as apple pie
And she'll get her own lad by and by
When she gets a lad of her own
She won't tell her ma till she comes home
Let them all come as they will
For it's Albert Mooney she loves still
(Refrain)

20 Rose Red Round

Rose, Rose, Rose red, Will I ever see thee wed? I will marry at thy will, sire At thy will.

Ding ding ding dong
Wedding bells on an April morn'
Carve thy name on a moss covered stone
On a moss covered stone.

Heigh-ho, nobody home Meat, nor drink, nor money have I none. Yet I will be merry. Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho.

Little bird
Take thy flight,
High above the sorrows
Of this dark night.

21 Haul Away Joe

O when I was a little lad Or so my mother told me, Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! That if I did not kiss the gals Me lips would all grow moldy. Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe!

(Chorus) Sing it!Way, haul away, we'll haul for better weather,Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe!

King Louis was the king of France Before the revolut–i–on Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! But then he got his head cut off Which spoiled his constitut—i—on Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! (Chorus) First I met a yankee girl, But she was fat and lazv Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! Then I met an Irish girl She darn near drives me crazy! Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! (Chorus) Saint Patrick was a gentleman He came from decent people, Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! He built a church in Dublin Town And on it put a steeple, Way, haul away, we'll haul away, Joe! (Chorus)

22 My son John (Cannonball)

Well were ya drunk or were ya blind To leave your two fine legs behind Or was it from walkin upon the sea That took your legs from the ground to the knee (Chorus) Well I wasn't drunk and I wasn't blind To leave my two fine legs behind T'was a cannonball on the fifth o' May That took my legs from the ground to the knee (Chorus) Each foreign war I'll now denounce 'tween this King of England and that King of I'd rather my legs as they used to be Than the king of Spain and his whole navy (Chorus) I was tall and I was slim And I had a leg for every limb But now I've got no legs at all You can't win a race with a cannon ball

23 WHISKEY IN THE JAR

As I was going over the Cork and Kerry mountains G D I met with captain Farrell and his money he was A counting. D Bm I first produced my pistol, and then produced my rapier. G D Said stand and deliver, for ya are a bold deceiver, A [Chorus] musha ring dumma do damma da D whack for the daddy 'ol G whack for the daddy 'ol G whack for the daddy in the jar

I counted out his money, and it made a pretty penny.

I put it in my pocket and I took it home to Jenny. She sighed and she swore, that she never would deceive me,

but the devil take the women, for they never can be easy

(Chorus)

I went into my chamber, a' for to take a slumber, I dreamt of gold and jewels and for sure it was no wonder.

But Jenny took my charges and she filled them up with water,

Then sent for captain Farrel to be ready for the slaughter.

(Chorus)

It was early in the morning, just before I rose to travel,

The guards were all around me and likewise captain Farrel.

I first produced my pistol, for she stole away my rapier,

But I couldn't shoot the water so a prisoner I was taken.

(Chorus)

If anyone can aid me, it's my brother in the army, I think that he is stationed in Cork or in Killarney.

And if he'll go with me, we'll go roving near Kilkenny,

And I swear he'll treat me better than me darlin' sportin' Jenny

(Chorus)

Some take delight in the fishin' and the trappin',
But others take delight in the carriages a—rovin'.
But me I take delight in the juice of the barley,
And courting pretty women in the morning bright
and early
(Chorus)

24 The Irish Rover

There was Barney Magee from the banks of the Lee

There was Hogan from County Tyrone

There was Johnny McGurk who was scared stiff of work

And a chap from Westmeath named Malone There was Slugger O'Toole who was drunk as a rule

And fighting Bill Tracy from Dover

And your man Mick McCann, from the banks of the Bann

Was the skipper on the Irish Rover

We had one million bags of the best Sligo rags

We had two million barrells of bone

We had three million bales of old nanny goats' tails

We had four million barrells of stone

We had five million hogs and six million dogs

And seven million barrells of porter

We had eight million sides of old blind horses' hides

In the hold of the Irish Rover

We had sailed seven years when the measles broke out

And our ship lost her way in a fog

And the whole of the crew was reduced down to two

'Twas myself and the captain's old dog

Then the ship struck a rock, oh, Lord what a shock

And nearly tumbled over

Turned nine times around then the poor old dog was drowned

I'm the last of the Irish Rover

25 And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda

When I was a young man I carried my pack And I lived the free life of a rover From the Murrays green basin to the dusty outback

I waltzed my Matilda all over Then in nineteen fifteen my country said Son It's time to stop rambling 'cause there's work to be done

So they gave me a tin hat and they gave me a gun And they sent me away to the war And the band played Waltzing Matilda As we sailed away from the quay And amidst all the tears and the shouts and the cheers

We sailed off to Gallipoli

How well I remember that terrible day
How the blood stained the sand and the water
And how in that hell that they called Suvla Bay
We were butchered like lambs at the slaughter
Johnny Turk he was ready, he primed himself well
He chased us with bullets, he rained us with shells
And in five minutes flat he'd blown us all to hell
Nearly blew us right back to Australia
But the band played Waltzing Matilda
As we stopped to bury our slain
We buried ours and the Turks buried theirs
Then we started all over again

Now those that were left, well we tried to survive In a mad world of blood, death and fire And for ten weary weeks I kept myself alive But around me the corpses piled higher Then a big Turkish shell knocked me arse over head

And when I woke up in my hospital bed And saw what it had done, I wished I was dead Never knew there were worse things than dying For no more I'll go waltzing Matilda All around the green bush far and near For to hump tent and pegs, a man needs two legs No more waltzing Matilda for me So they collected the cripples, the wounded, the maimed

And they shipped us back home to Australia
The armless, the legless, the blind, the insane
Those proud wounded heroes of Suvla
And as our ship pulled into Circular Quay
I looked at the place where my legs used to be
And thank Christ there was nobody waiting for
me

To grieve and to mourn and to pity And the band played Waltzing Matilda As they carried us down the gangway But nobody cheered, they just stood and stared Then turned all their faces away

And now every April I sit on my porch And I watch the parade pass before me And I watch my old comrades, how proudly they march

Reliving old dreams of past glory And the old men march slowly, all bent, stiff and sore

The forgotten heroes from a forgotten war And the young people ask, "What are they marching for?"

And I ask myself the same question And the band plays Waltzing Matilda And the old men answer to the call But year after year their numbers get fewer Some day no one will march there at all

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda Who'll go a waltzing Matilda with me And their ghosts may be heard as you pass the Billabong

Who'll go a waltzing Matilda with me?

26 The Rocky Road to Dublin

While in the merry month of June from me home I started,

Left the girls of Tuam Nearly broken hearted, Bm

 \ensuremath{Bm} Saluted father dear, kissed me darling mother,

Drank a pint of beer, me grief and tears to smother,

 $\begin{array}{ccc} Bm & A & Bm \\ \text{Then off} & \text{to reap the corn, leave where I was} \\ A & \text{born,} \end{array}$

Bm A
Cut a stout black thorn to banish ghosts and
goblins:

Bm A Bm A
Bought a pair of brogues rattling o'er the bogs
Bm A

Bm A And fright'ning all the dogs on the rocky road to Dublin.

Bm A Bm
[Chorus] One, two, three four, five,
Hunt the Hare and turn her down the rocky
road
A Bm A Bm
all the way to Dublin, Whack fol la de rah
!

In Mullingar that night I rested limbs so weary, Started by daylight next morning blithe and early, Took a drop of pure to keep me heart from sinking;

Thats a Paddy's cure whenever he's on drinking. See the lassies smile, laughing all the while At me curious style, 'twould set your heart a bubblin'

Asked me was I hired, wages I required, I was almost tired of the rocky road to Dublin. [Chorus]

In Dublin next arrived, I thought it such a pity
To be soon deprived a view of that fine city.
So then I took a stroll, all among the quality;
Me bundle it was stole, all in a neat locality.
Something crossed me mind, when I looked behind,

No bundle could I find upon me stick a wobblin' Enquiring for the rogue, they said me Connaught brogue

Wasn't much in vogue on the rocky road to Dublin.

[Chorus]

From there I got away, me spirits never falling, Landed on the quay, just as the ship was sailing. The Captain at me roared, said that no room had he;

When I jumped aboard, a cabin found for Paddy. Down among the pigs, played some hearty rigs, Danced some hearty jigs, the water round me bubbling;

When off Holyhead I wished meself was dead, Or better for instead on the rocky road to Dublin. [Chorus]

Well the boys of Liverpool, when we safely landed.

Called meself a fool, I could no longer stand it. Blood began to boil, temper I was losing; Poor old Erin's Isle they began abusing. "Hurrah me soul" says I, me Shillelagh I let fly. Some Galway boys were nigh and saw I was a hobble in.

With a load "hurray!" joined in the affray. We quitely cleared the way for the rocky road to Dublin.

[Chorus]

27 Star of the County Down

As she onward sped, sure I scratched my head,

And I looked with a feelin' rare, And I say's, say's I, to a passer-by, "Whose the maid with the nut brown hair"? He smiled at me and he says, say's he, "That's the gem of Ireland's crown. It's Rosie McCann from the banks of the Bann, She's the star of the County Down". [Chorus] At the Harvest Fair she'll be surely there And I'll dress in my Sunday clothes, With my shoes shone bright and my hat cocked Right for a smile from my nut brown rose. No pipe I'll smoke, no horse I'll yoke Till my plough turns rust colored brown. Till a smiling bride, by my own fireside Sits the star of the County Down. [Chorus]

28 Red is the rose

(Chorus) Red is the rose that in yonder garden G A D Bm G A G grows Fair is the lily of the valley Clear is Fm G Bm A D the water that flows from the Boyne But Bm Em A D my love is fairer than any.

'Twas down by Killarney's green woods that we straved

When the moon and the stars they were shining The moon shone its rays on her locks of golden hair

And she swore she'd be my love forever.

(Chorus)

It's not for the parting that my sister pains It's not for the grief of my mother 'Tis all for the loss of my bonny Irish lass That my heart is breaking forever.

(Chorus)

29 Finnegan's Wake

[Chorus] And whack Fol-De-Dah now dance to your partner GRound the floor, your trotters shake DWasn't it the truth I told you GLots of fun at Finnegan's wake

One morning Tim was rather full His head felt heavy, which made him shake Fell from the ladder and broke his skull So they carried him home, his corpse to wake Rolled him up in a nice clean sheet And laided him upon the bed A bottle of whiskey at his feet And a gallon of porter at his head [Chorus] His friends assembled at his wake And Missus Finnegan called for lunch First they brought in tay and cake Then pipes, tobacco and whiskey punch Biddy O'Brien begged to cry Such a nice clean corpse did you see Aye, Tim me boy, oh why did you die? Arrah shut your gob said Paddy MCGee [Chorus] Then Peggy O'Connor took up the job Biddy says she you're wrong I'm sure Biddy then gave her a belt on the gob And left her sprawling on the floor There the war did soon engage Woman to woman and man to man Shillelah-law was all the rage An a row and a ruction soon began [Chorus] Mickey Maloney raised his head When a bottle Of whiskey flew at him It missed him falling on the bed The liquor scattered over Tim Tim revives, see how he rises Timothy rising from the bed "Whirl your whiskey around like blazes? Tonamondeal, do you think I'm dead!?" [Chorus 2x]

30 The little beggarmen

I am a little beggarman, a-begging I have been For three score or more in this little isle of green I'm known from the Liffey down to Segue And I'm known by the name of old Johnny Dhu

Of all the trades that's going, I'm sure begging is the best

For when a man is tired, he can sit down and rest He can beg for his dinner, he has nothing else to

Only cut around the corner with his old rig-a-doo

I slept in the barn right down at Caurabawn A wet night came on and I slept until the dawn With holes in the roof and the rain coming through

And the rats and the cats, they were playing peek-a-boo

When who did I waken but the woman of the house

With her white spotty apron and her calico blouse She began to frighten, I said, "Boo Ara, don't be afraid, ma'am, it's only Johnny Dhu"

I met a little flaxy–haired girl one day "Good morning, little flaxy–haired girl," I did say "Good morning, little beggarman, and how do you do

With your rags and your tags and your old rig-a-doo?"

I'll buy a pair of leggings and a collar and a tie And a nice young lady I'll fetch by and by I'll buy a pair of goggles, I'll color them blue And an old–fashioned lady I will make her, too

Over the road with me pack on me back Over the fields with me great, heavy sack With holes in me shoes and me toes peeping through

Singing, "Skinny-me-rink-a-doodle-o and old Johnny Dhu"

I must be going to bed for it's getting late at night

The fire's all raked and out goes the light So now you've heard the story of me old rig-a-doo

"It's good—bye and God be with you," says old Johnny Dhu

31 Johnny I Hardly Knew Ya

 $\begin{array}{c} Em \\ \text{While goin' the road to sweet Athy, hurroo,} \\ hurroo \\ Em \\ \text{While goin' the road to sweet Athy, hurroo,} \\ hurroo \\ D \\ \text{While goin' the road to sweet Athy} \\ Em \\ A \text{ stick in me hand and a drop in me eye} \\ G D Em \\ A \text{ doleful damsel I} & \text{heard cry,} \\ Em \\ \text{Johnny I hardly knew ye.} \end{array}$

(Chorus) With your drums and guns and Bm
guns and drums, hurroo, hurroo
Em
With your drums and guns and guns and G
drums, hurroo, hurroo

With your drums and guns and guns and drums
Em
Bm
The enemy nearly slew ye
G
D
Em
Bm
Oh my darling dear, Ye look so queer
Em
Johnny I hardly knew ye.

Where are your eyes that were so mild, hurroo, hurroo

Where are your eyes that were so mild, hurroo, hurroo

Where are your eyes that were so mild When my heart you so beguiled Why did ye run from me and the child Oh Johnny, I hardly knew ye. (Chorus)

Where are your legs that used to run, hurroo, hurroo

Where are your legs that used to run, hurroo, hurroo

Where are your legs that used to run When you went for to carry a gun Indeed your dancing days are done Oh Johnny, I hardly knew ye. (Chorus)

I'm happy for to see ye home, hurroo, hurroo I'm happy for to see ye home, hurroo, hurroo I'm happy for to see ye home
All from the island of Sulloon
So low in flesh, so high in bone
Oh Johnny I hardly knew ye.
(Chorus)

Ye haven't an arm, ye haven't a leg, hurroo, hurroo

Ye haven't an arm, ye haven't a leg, hurroo, hurroo

Ye haven't an arm, ye haven't a leg Ye're an armless, boneless, chickenless egg Ye'll have to put with a bowl out to beg Oh Johnny I hardly knew ye. (Chorus)

They're rolling out the guns again, hurroo, hurroo They're rolling out the guns again, hurroo, hurroo They're rolling out the guns again
But they never will take our sons again
No they never will take our sons again
Johnny I'm swearing to ye.

32 Blacks and Tans

I was born in the Dublin street Where the loval drums do beat, And the loving English feet walked all over us; And every single night when me dad would come home tight, Bm A Bm He'd invite the neighbours out with this chorus:

[Chorus] Come out you black and tans, Come out and fight me like a man, **Bm** Show your wife how you won medals down in Flanders; Tell her how the IRA made you run like hell From the green and lovely lanes of *Bm* Killeshandra.

Come tell us how you slew Them of Arabs two by two. Like the Zulus they had knives and bows and arrows: Of how bravely you faced one with your sixteen-pounder gun, And you frightened all the natives to the marrow. (Chorus) Come let us hear you tell How you slammed the brave Parnell, And taught him well and truly persecuted; Where are the stares and jeers that you proudly let us hear, When our heroes of sixteen were executed.

(Chorus) Oh! Come out you British Huns,

Come out and fight without your guns, Show your wife how you won medals up in Derry; You murdered sixteen men and you'll do the same

So get out of here and take your bloody army. (Chorus)

The day is coming fast

And the time is here at last,

When each yeoman will be cast aside before us,

And if there be a need

Sure my kids wil sing, "Godspeed!"

With a verse or two of Steven Beehan's chorus. (Chorus)

33 One More Dollar

 $\begin{array}{c}
C \\
For a job in the fruit trees
\end{array}$ But I missed those hills with the windy pines For their song seemed to suit me So I sent my wages to my home $\begin{array}{ccc} C & G \\ \text{Said we'd soon be together} \end{array}$ For the next good crop would pay my way C And I would come home forever

Em D C D (Chorus) One more dime to show for my **G** day Em D C D G
One more dollar and I'm on my way **Em D C** When I reach those hills, boys Em D C D G
One more dollar and I'm going home

No work said the boss at the bunk house door There's a freeze on the branches So when the dice came out at the bar downtown I rolled and I took my chances.

(Chorus)

A long time ago I left my home Just a boy passing twenty Could you spare a coin and a Christian praver For my luck has turned against me.

(Chorus)

34 Sally Gardens

(Chorus) She bid me to take life easy Em C D GAs the leaves grow on the tree Em D C GBut I was young and fool—ish C D GAnd with her did not agree

In a field down by the river My love and I did stand And upon my leaning shoulder She laid her snow—white hand

She bid me take life easy As the grass grows on the weirs But I was young and foolish And now I am full of tears

(Repeat 1st verse and refrain)

35 Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures; He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

36 Four Green Fields

G D G
What did I have',
C D
Said the fine old woman.
G D G
What did I have',
C D
This proud old woman did say.
'I had four green fields,
Each one was a jewel.
But strangers came
And tried to take them from me.
But my fine strong sons
They fought to save my jewels.
C D
They fought and they died
G D G
And that was my grief', said she.

'Long time ago',
Said the fine old woman,
'Long time ago',
This proud old woman did say.
'There was war and death,
Plundering and pillage.
My children starved
By mountain, valley and stream.
And their wailing cries
They reached the very heavens.
And my four green fields
Ran red with their blood', said she.

'What have I now',
Said the fine old woman.
'What have I now',
This proud old woman did say.
'I have four green fields,
One of them's in bondage.
In strangers' hands,
That try to take it from me.
But my sons have sons
As brave as were their fathers.
And my four green fields
Will bloom once again', said she.

37 The Last Rose Of Summer

'Tis the last rose of summer left blooming alone All her lovely companions are faded and gone No flower of her kindred, no rosebud is nigh To reflect back her blushes and give sigh for sigh

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one, to pine on the stem

Since the lovely are sleeping, go sleep thou with them

Thus kindly I scatter thy leaves o'er the bed Where thy mates of the garden lie scentless and dead

So soon may I follow when friendships decay And from love's shining circle the gems drop away When true hearts lie withered and fond ones are flown

Oh who would inhabit this bleak world alone?

38 Eileen Aroon

Who in the song so sweet, Eileen Aroon Who in the dance so fleet, Eileen Aroon Dear are her charms to me, dearer her laughter free

Dearest her constancy, Eileen Aroon

Were she no longer true, Eileen Aroon What would her lover do, Eileen Aroon Fly with a broken chain, far o'er the sounding main

Never to love again, Eileen Aroon

Youth will in time decay, Eileen Aroon Beauty must fade away, Eileen Aroon Castles are sacked in war, chieftains are scattered far

Truth is a fixed star, Eileen Aroon

G D G D G A D -- Eileen Aroon, Eileen Aroon,

39 Dooley

Dooley was a good old man He lived below the mill Dooley had two daughters and a forty gallon still One gal watched the boiler the other watched the spout

Mama corked the bottles when old Doolev fetched them out

(Chorus) Dooley, slipping up the holler Dooley, trying to make a dollar Dooley, give me a swaller and I'll pay you back some day

The revenuers came for him a slipping through the woods Dooley kept behind them all and never lost his goods Dooley was a trader when into town he'd come Sugar by the bushel and molasses by the ton (Chorus) I remember very well the day old Dooley died The women Holk Townstaffelle and the Hierarchien tool 'round and cried Now Dooley's on the mountain he lies there all alone relies being building and a barrel for a stone (Chorus)

The Foggy Dew 40

'Twas down the glen one Easter morn D To a city fair rode I. Bm A When armed line of marching men D A Br In squadrons passed me by. No pipes did hum, no battle drum Did sound its loud tattoo But the Angelus bell o'er the Liffey's swell Rang out in the (A/Fm) foggy dew.

Right proudly high over Dublin town They hung out a flag of war. 'Twas better to die 'neath an Irish sky Than at Suvla or Sud el Bar. And from the plains of Royal Meath Strong men came hurrying through; While Brittania's huns with their great big guns Sailed in through the foggy dew.

'Twas England bade our wild geese go That small nations might be free. But their lonely graves are by Suvla's waves On the fringe of the gray North Sea. But had they died by Pearse's side Or fought with Cathal Brugha, Their names we'd keep where the Fenians sleep 'Neath the shroud of the foggy dew. The night fell black and the rifle crack Made Perfidious Albion reel Mid the leaden rain seven tongues of flame Shone out o'er the line of steel By each shining blade a prayer was said That to Ireland her sons be true When the morning broke still the war flag shook Out its folds in the foggy dew.

For those who died that Eastertide In the springing of the year. And the world did gaze with deep amaze

At those fearless men, but few Who bore the fight that freedom's light Might shine through the foggy dew.

And back through the glen I rode again and my heart with grief was sore For I parted then with valiant men That I shall see no more But to and fro in my dreams I'll go And I'll kneel and pray for you For slavery fled, O glorious Dead, When you fell in the foggy dew!

41 Marie's Wedding

(Chorus) Step we gaily on we go C D Heel for heel and toe for toe G Arm and arm and row and row C D All for Marie's wedding

Over hillways, up and down
Myrtle green and bracken brown
Past the sheilings through the town
All for the sake of marie
(Refrain)
Red her cheeks as rowan's are
Bright her eyes as any star
Fairest of them all by far
Is our darlin' marie
(Refrain)
Plenty herring, plenty meal
Plenty peat to fill her kreel
Plenty bonnie bairns as well
That's the toast for Marie
(Refrain 2x)

42 Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures; He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

43 New York Girls

As I walked down the Broadway one evening in DJuly

July

G

I met a maid who asked my trade – A sailor lad

G

says I

To Tiffany's I took her, I did not mind expense An' I bought her two gold ear-rings, and they cost me fifty cents

(Chorus) And away Santy – My dear Annie G C G D O you New York girls, can't you dance the G polka

Says she – You lime–juice sailor, now see me home you may

But when we reached her cottage door, she unto me did say

She says her man's a Yankee, with his hair cut short behind

And he wears a pair of tall sea boots and he sails in the Blackball Line

(Chorus)

He's homeward bound this evening, and with me he will stay

So get a move on sailor boy, get cracking on your way!

(Chorus)

I kissed her hard and proper, before her yankee came

So fare ya well you Bowery girl, I know your little game.

(Chorus)

I wrapped me rags right round me and to the docks did steer.

I'll never court another girl, I'll stick to rum and beer

(Chorus)

I joined a yankee slug boat, we're set to sail next morn.

Don't ever mess with women boys, you're safer round cape horn!

(Chorus)

Repeat 15 more times or so....

44 Take 'Em Away

(Chorus) G Take 'em away, take 'em away, G D

 $m{G}$ $m{D}$ Take away these chains from me

My heart is broken 'cause my spirit's not free

G D G
Lord take away these chains from me
Some birds' feathers are too bright to be
caged

I know I'm not that colorful but a bird just the same

Open up your gate now, let me put down my load

So I can feel at ease and go back to my home

(Chorus)

Sun beatin' down, my legs can't seem to stand

There's a boss man at a turnrow with a rifle in his hand

I've got nine children, nothin' in the pan My wife she died hungry while I was plowin' land

(Chorus)

Can't see when I go to work, can't see when I get off

How do you expect a man not to get lost Every year I just keep getting deeper in debt

If there's a happy day, Lord, I haven't seen one yet

(Chorus)

Land that I love is the land that I'm workin' But it's hard to love it all the time when your back is a-hurtin'

Gettin' too old now to push this here plow Please let me lay down so I can look at the clouds

(Chorus)

Land that I know is where two rivers collide The Brazos the Navaho and the big blue sky Flood plains, freight trains, watermelon vines

Of any place on God's green earth, this is where I choose to die

45 Sally Gardens

(Chorus) She bid me to take life easy Em C D GAs the leaves grow on the tree Em D C GBut I was young and fool—ish C D GAnd with her did not agree

In a field down by the river My love and I did stand And upon my leaning shoulder She laid her snow—white hand

She bid me take life easy As the grass grows on the weirs But I was young and foolish And now I am full of tears

(Repeat 1st verse and refrain)

46 The Black Velvet Band

In a neat little town they called Belfast AApprentice to trade I was bound DAnd many an hour sweet happiness GHave I spent in that neat little town DAs sad misfortune came over me

Which caused me to stray from the land DFar away from me friends and relations GBetrayed by the black velvet band

 $\stackrel{\textstyle D}{Her}$ eyes they shown like diamonds $\stackrel{\textstyle A}{A}$ I thought her the queen of the land (And she was!) $\stackrel{\textstyle D}{D}$ $\stackrel{\textstyle Bm}{And}$ And her hair, it hung over her shoulder $\stackrel{\textstyle G}{G}$ $\stackrel{\textstyle A}{A}$ $\stackrel{\textstyle D}{D}$ Tied up with a black velvet band

I took a stroll down broadway Meaning not long for to stay When who should I meet but this pretty fair maid Come a—traipsing along the highway She was both fair and handsome Her neck, it was just like a swan And her hair, it hung over her shoulder Tied up with a black velvet band (Chorus) I took a stroll with this pretty fair maid And a gentleman passing us by Well, I knew she meant the doing of him By the look in her roguish black eye A gold watch she took from his pocket And placed it right into my hand And the very first thing that I said, was Bad 'cess to the black velvet band (Chorus) Before the judge and the jury Next morning, I had to appear The judge, he says to me: "Young man, you're case it is proven clear Seven long years penal servitude To be spent far away from the land Far away from your friends and relations Betrayed by the black velvet band" (Chorus) So come all you jolly young fellows A warning take by me When you are out on the town, me lads Beware of the pretty colleens They'll feed you with strong drink (Oh yeah!) 'Till you are unable to stand And the very first thing that you'll know is You've landed in Van Diemens Land (Chorus)

47 Edelweiss Richard Rogers

D
Blossom of snow may you bloom and grow
C
D
D7
Bloom and (Am7)grow forever Edelweiss,
Edelweiss
Bless my homeland forever
(Repeat 2nd verse, then repeat entirely)

48 Rose Red Round

Rose, Rose, Rose red, Will I ever see thee wed? I will marry at thy will, sire At thy will.

Ding ding ding dong Wedding bells on an April morn' Carve thy name on a moss covered stone On a moss covered stone.

Heigh-ho, nobody home Meat, nor drink, nor money have I none. Yet I will be merry. Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho.

Little bird Take thy flight, High above the sorrows Of this dark night.

49 The Parting Glass

Of all the money that e'er I had I spent it in good company And all the harm I've ever done Alas, it was to none but me And all I've done for want of wit To memory now I can't recall So fill to me the parting glass Good night and joy be with you all

Of all the comrades that e'er I had They're sorry for my going away And all the sweethearts that e'er I had They'd wish me one more day to stay But since it fell into my lot That I should rise and you should not I'll gently rise and softly call "Good night and joy be with you all"

If I had money enough to spend And Leisure time to stay awhile, There is a fair maid in this town Who surely has my heart beguiled Her rosy cheeks and ruby lips My own, she has my heart enthralled So I'll gently rise and softly call "Goodnight and joy to be with you all."

50 Annie Laurie

 $\begin{array}{c} G & C \\ \text{Maxwellton braes are bonnie,} \\ G & D \\ \text{Where early fa's the dew,} \\ G & C \\ \text{And 'twas there that Annie Laurie} \\ G & D & G \\ \text{Gave me her promise true.} \\ D7 & G \\ \text{Gave me her promise true,} \\ D7 & G \\ \text{Which ne'er forgot will be,} \\ C & G \\ \text{And for bonnie Annie Laurie,} \\ D & G \\ \text{I lay me doon and dee.} \end{array}$

Her brow is like the snowdrift, Her neck is like a swan, Her face it is the fairest That e'er the sun shone on. That e'er the sun shone on, And dark blue is her ee, And for bonnie Annie Laurie I lay me doon and dee.

Like dew on th' gowan lying, Is the fa' o' her fairy feet, And like winds in summer sighing Her voice is low and sweet. Her voice is low and sweet, And she's a' the world to me, And for bonnie Annie Laurie, I lay me doon and dee.

51 Roddy McCorley

- O see the fleet—foot host of men, who speed with faces drawn,
- From farmstead and from fishers' hut, along the banks of Ban:
- They come with vengeance in their eyes. Too late! Too late are they,
- For young Roddy McCorley goes to die on the bridge of Toome today.
- Up the narrow street he stepped, smiling, proud and young.
- About the hemp–rope on his neck, the golden ringlets clung;
- There's ne'er a tear in his blue eyes, both glad and bright are they,
- As young Roddy McCorley goes to die on the bridge of Toome today.
- When he last stepped up that street, his shining pike in hand
- Behind him marched, in grim array, a stalwart earnest band.
- To Antrim town! To Antrim town, he led them to the fray,
- As young Roddy McCorley goes to die on the bridge of Toome today.
- There's never a one of all your dead more bravely fell in fray
- Than he who marches to his fate on the bridge of Toome today:
- True to the last! True to the last, he treads the upwards way,
- And young Roddy McCorley goes to die on the bridge of Toome today.
- And young Roddy McCorley goes to die on the bridge of Toome today.

52 Cavan Girl

- As I walk the road from Killeshandra, weary, I sat down
- For it's twelve long miles around the lake to get to Cavan Town
- Though Oughter and the road I go once seemed beyond compare
- Now I curse the time it takes to reach my Cavan girl, so fair
- The Autumn shades are on the leaves, the trees will soon be bare
- Each red—coat leaf around me seems the colour of her hair
- My gaze retreats, defies my feet, and once again I sigh
- As the broken pool of sky reminds the colour of her eyes
- At the Cavan cross each Sunday morning, where she can be found
- And she seems to have the eye of every boy in Cavan Town
- If my luck will hold I'll have the golden summer of her smile
- And to break the hearts of Cavan men she'll talk to me a while
- So next Sunday evening finds me homeward, Killeshandra bound
- To work the week 'til I return to court in Cavan Town
- When asked if she would be my bride, at least she'd not say no
- So next Sunday morning I'll rouse myself and back to her, I'll go