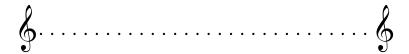
# The Thousand Good Songs

2022

This songbook belongs to



## Songs

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#### **1** 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 rumbling 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?

#### **2** The Green Fields Of France

Oh (D) how do you (Bm) do, young (G) Willy Mc-(A)-Bride

Do you mind if I sit here down (G) by your grave-(D)-side

And rest for a (Bm) while in the (G) warm summer (A) sun

I've been walking all day, and (G) I'm nearly (D) done

And I see by your (Bm) gravestone you were (G) only nine-(Em)-teen

When you (A) joined the great (G) fallen in 19-(A)-16

Well I (D) hope you died (Bm) quick And I (G) hope you died (Em) clean

Or (A) Willy McBride, was is it (G) slow and

(D) obscene (Chorus) Did they (A) beat the drums slowly

Did they (G) play the fife (D) lowly Did they (A) sound the death march as they

(G) lowered you (A) down

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

Did the (Bm) pipes play the (G) flowers of the (A) for-(D)-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 in difference to his fellow man And a whole generation were but chered 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)

#### **3** St. Brendans Fair Isle

When (D) I was a lad on the (G) Emerald (D) Isle

- I (Bm) heard many stories both (D) lovely and (Bm) wild
- (D) About the great dragons and (G) monsters that (D) be

That (Bm) swallow the ships when they (D) sail on the (Bm) sea

Though (G) I was an artist with canvas and paint

I sailed with St. Brendan and his jolly (D) saints

We (G) told the good people goodbye for a while

(Chorus) We (D) sailed for (A) St. Brendan's (D) fair isle, fair (G) isle

We sailed for St. (A) Brendan's fair (D) isle We'd been on the ocean for 94 days

When we came to a spot where the sea was ablaze

Those demons from Hades were dancing with glee

And burning the sailors alive on the sea St. Brendan he walked on the blistering waves He threw all those demons right back to their caves

And all of the saints were a heavenly smile (Chorus)

One night while the brethren were lying asleep A great dragon came up from under the deep He thundered and light'nend and made a great din

He awakened St. Brendan and all of his men The dragon came on with his mouth open wide We threw in a cross and the great dragon died We skinned him and cooked him and feasted a while

(Chorus)

At last we came onto that beautiful land We all went ashore and we walked on the sand We took our longbows and we killed us a boo
We roasted it up and had hot barbecue
And after a while we were singing this song
We noticed the island was moving along
We ate and we drank and we rolled in great
style

(Chorus)

St. Brendan said "Boys, this is much to my wish "To ride on the back of the world's biggest fish "Hold on to the line that is pullin' the ship "We'll need it some day if this fish takes a dip." We sailed every ocean, we sailed every sea We sailed every spot that a sailor could be In 44 days we sailed 10 million miles (Chorus)

### 4 Finnegans Wake

(D) Tim Finnegan lived in (Bm) Wattling Street A (G) gentle Irishman (A) mighty odd He'd a (D) beautiful brogue so (Bm) rich and sweet

To (G) rise in the world he (A) carried a (D) hod

(D) See he'd sort of a (Bm) tripling way With (D) love for a liquor poor (Bm) Tim was

To (D) help him on with his (Bm) work each day

He'd a (G) drop of the Craythor (A) every (D) morn'

[Chorus] And (D) whack Fol-De-Dah now (Bm) dance to your partner

- (G) Round the floor, your (A) trotters shake
- (D) Wasn't it the (Bm) truth I told you
- (G) Lots of fun at (A) Finnegan's (D) 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]

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- (D) About the great dragons and (G) monsters that (D) be

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We roasted it up and had hot barbecue
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We noticed the island was moving along
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style

(Chorus)

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#### **6** Four Green Fields

(G) What (D) did I (G) have',

Said the (C) fine old (D) woman.

(G) What (D) did I (G) have',

This (C) proud old woman did (D) 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.

They (C) fought and they (D) died

And (G) that was my (D) grief', said (G) 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.

#### The Irish Rover

In the (G) year of our Lord, eighteen (C) hundred and six,

We set (G) sail from the Coal Quay of (D) Cork We were (G) sailing away with a (C) cargo of bricks

For the (G) grand City (D) Hall in New (G) York

We'd an (G) elegant craft, it was (D) rigged 'fore and aft

And (G) how the trade winds (D) drove her She had (G) twenty-three masts and she (C) stood several blasts

And they (G) called her the Irish (D)-(G) 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

#### 8 EILEEN AROON

I (D) know a valley fair, Ei-(G)-leen A-(D)-roon

I (D) know a cottage there, Ei-(G)-leen

A-(D)-roon

(D) Far in the (G) valley shade (D) I know a

(A) tender maid

(D) Flow'r of the (A) hazel (D) glade, (G)

Ei-(A)-leen (D) 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, Eileen Aroon

#### **9** 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 Dooley fetched them out

(Chorus) Dooley, slipping up the holler

Dooley, trying to make a dollar

Dooley, give me a swaller and Ill 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 hed come Sugar by the bushel and molasses by the ton (Chorus)

I remember very well the day old Dooley died The women folk looked sorry and the men stood round and cried

Now Dooleys on the mountain he lies there all alone

They put a jug beside him and a barrel for a stone

(Chorus)

#### **10** Annie Laurie

(G) Maxwellton braes are (C) bonnie,

(G)Where early fa's the (D) dew,

And 'twas (G) there that Annie (C) Laurie

Gave (G) me her (D) promise (G) true.

Gave me her (D7) promise (G) true,

Which ne'er (D7) forgot will (G) be,

And for (C) bonnie Annie (G) Laurie,

I lay me (D) doon and (G) dee.

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 lav 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.

#### 11 Gypsy Rover (Whistlin Gypsy)

The (G) gypsy rover came (C) over the (D) hill (G) Down through the valley so (C) sha-(D)-dy He (G) whistled and he (Am) sang till the (D) green woods (Em) rang

And (G) he won the (Am) heart of a (D) la-(G)-dy

(G) Ah dee do, ah dee (C) do da (D) day

(G) Ah dee do, ah dee (C) day (D) dee

He (G) whistled and he (Am) sang till the (D) green woods (Em) rang

And (G) he won the (Am) heart of a (D) la-(G)-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

#### 12 Carrickfergus

(G) I wish I (Am) was (D) in Carrick(G)fergus Only for (Am) nights (D) in Bally(G)grand I would swim (Am) over (D) the deepest (G) ocean

Only for (Am) nights (D) in Bally(G)grand But the sea is (Em) wide and I cannot swim

And neither have (Em) I the (Am) wings to (D) fly

(G) I wish I (Am) had (D) a handsome (G) boatsman

To ferry me (Am) over (D) my love and I (G) 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.

#### 13 Johnny I Hardly Knew Ya

While (Em) goin' the road to sweet Athy, (Bm) hurroo, hurroo

While (Em) goin' the road to sweet Athy, (G) hurroo, hurroo

While goin' the road to (D) sweet Athy

A (Em) stick in me hand and a (Bm) drop in me eye

A (G) doleful (D) damsel (Em) I heard (Bm) cry,

(Em) Johnny I hardly knew ye.

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

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

With your drums and guns and (D) guns and drums

The (Em) enemy nearly (Bm) slew ye

Oh my (G) darling (D) dear, Ye (Em) look so (Bm) 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.

#### **14** Auld Lang Syne

Should (C) auld acquaintance (G) be forgot,

And (Am) never brought to (F) mind

Should (C) auld acquaintance (G) be forgot,

And (F) auld (G) lang (C) syne!

(Chorus) For (C) auld lang (G) syne, my dear

For (Am) auld lang (F) syne,

We'll (C) take a cup o' (G) kindness yet

For (F) auld (G) lang (C) syne!

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!

#### **15** BLACK AND TANS

I was (Bm) born in the Dublin street

Where the (A) loyal drums do beat,

And the (Bm) loving English feet walked all over us;

And (D) every single night when me (A) dad would come home tight.

He'd (Bm) invite the neighbours (A) out with this (Bm) chorus:

[Chorus] Come (Bm) out you black and tans, Come out and (A) fight me like a man, Show your (Bm) wife how you won medals down in Flanders;

Tell her (D) how the IRA made you (A) run like hell away,

From the (Bm) green and lovely (A) lanes of (Bm) Killeshandra.

Come tell us how you slew

Them ol' 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 again,

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)

#### **16** The Black Velvet Band

In a (D) neat little town they called Belfast Apprentice to trade I was (A) bound And (D) many an hour sweet (Bm) happiness Have I (G) spent in that (A) neat little (D) town

As (D) sad misfortune came over me Which caused me to stray from the (A) land Far (D) away from me friends and (Bm) relations

(G) Betrayed by the (A) black velvet (D) band Her (D) eyes they shown like diamonds I thought her the queen of the (A) land (And she was!)

And her (D) hair, it hung over her (Bm) shoulder

Tied (G) up with a (A) black velvet (D) 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)

#### 17 The Foggy Dew

'Twas (Bm) down the glen one (A) Easter morn To a (D) city (A) fair rode (Bm) I.

When (Bm) armed line of (A) marching men In (D) squadrons (A) passed me (Bm) by.

No (D) pipes did hum, no (A) battle (Bm) drum Did sound its (A) loud (Bm) tattoo

But the (Bm) Angelus bell o'er the (A) Liffey's swell

Rang (D) out in the (A/Fm) foggy (Bm) 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.

The bravest fell, and the requiem bell

Rang mournfully and clear

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 Ill go

And Ill kneel and pray for you

For slavery fled, O glorious Dead,

When you fell in the foggy dew!

#### **18** Fields of Athenry

By a (D) lonely prison wall, I (G) heard a young girl (D) call-(A)-ing

(D) Michael, they have (G) taken you (A) away,

For you (D) stole Trevelyan's (G) corn,

So the (D) young might see the (A) morn

Now a (Em) prison ship lies (A) waiting in the

(D) bay

[Chorus] (D) Low (G) lie the (D) fields of

Athen-(Bm)-ry

Where (D) once we watched the (\*Bm) small free birds (A) fly

Our (D) love was on the (G) wing

We had (D) dreams and songs to (A) sing

It's so (Em) lonely round the (A) fields of

Athen-(D)-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]

### 19 Edelweiss (Richard Rogers)

- (G) Edelweiss (D), (G) Edelweiss (C)
- (G) Every (Em) morning you (Am7) greet (D7)

me

- (G) Small and (D) white, (G) clean and (C) bright
  - (G) You look (D) happy to (G) meet me.
- (D) Blossom of snow may you (G) bloom and grow
  - (C) Bloom and (Am7 )grow (D) forever (D7)

Edelweiss, Edelweiss

Bless my homeland forever

(Repeat 2nd verse, then repeat entirely)