Musica Vitae



SONGS FOR FOLK SINGS

REVISED MARCH 2025

SONGBOOK.THADHUGHES.XYZ

SACRED HARP

Sacred Harp singing is a tradition of sacred choral music that originated in New England and was later perpetuated and carried on in the American South. The name is derived from The Sacred Harp, a ubiquitous and historically important tunebook printed in shape notes. The work was first published in 1844 and has reappeared in multiple editions ever since. Sacred Harp music represents one branch of an older tradition of American music that developed over the period 1770 to 1820 from roots in New England, with a significant, related development under the influence of "revival" services around the 1840s. This music was included in, and became profoundly associated with, books using the shape note style of notation popular in America in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

"Sacred Harp ist a capella Heavy Metal," so saith some.

Being four-part in proper form, the music is not included here, but can be improvised/inspired/simplified from the original. The original numbers for the songs are included for reference.

ETERNAL DAY (383)

Oh what of all my suff'rings here, If, Lord, Thou count me meet With that enraptured host appear And worship at Thy feet? Give joy or grief, give ease or pain, Take life or friends away, But let me find them all again In that eternal day.

Oh what hath Jesus bought for me, Before my ravished eyes? Rivers of life divine I see, And trees of paradise. I see a world of spirits bright, Who taste the pleasures there, They all are robed in spotless white, And conqu'ring palms they bear.

Soar Away (455)

I want a sober mind, An all sustaining eye, To see my God above, And to the heavens fly.

I'd soar away above the sky, I'd fly-y-y-y (and fly) to see my God above. I'd fly, fly, fly to see my God above!

I want a Godly fear, A quick discerning eye, That looks to Thee my God, And sees the tempter fly.

I'd soar away above the sky...

Sweet Prospect (65) Save, Mighty Lord (708)

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye, To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie.

Oh, the transporting, rapt'rous scene, That rises to my sight, Sweet fields arrayed in living green, And rivers of delight!

O'er all those wide extended plains, Shines one eternal day; There God the Son forever reigns, And scatters night away.

Oh, the transporting...

No chilling winds, or pois'nous breath, Can reach that healthful shore; Sickness and sorrow, pain and death, Are felt and feared no more.

Oh, the transporting...

Jesus, my all, to heav'n is gone, Save, mighty Lord! He whom I fix my hopes upon. Save, mighty Lord!

Oh, save,
Save mighty Lord,
And send converting power down,
Save, mighty Lord!

The way the holy prophet went, Save, mighty Lord! The road that leads from banishment. Save, mighty Lord!

Oh, save, save mighty Lord, and...

The King's highway of holiness, Save, mighty Lord! I'll go, for all His paths are peace. Save, mighty Lord!

Oh, save, save, mighty Lord, and...

Wondrous Love (159)

What wondrous love is this! Oh, my soul, oh my soul! That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse For my soul?

When I was sinking down, Sinking down, Sinking down, Beneath God's righteous frown Christ laid aside His crown For my soul. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing; I will sing; Who is the great I Am, While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free I'll sing on; I'll sing on; I'll sing and joyful be,
Throughout eternity
I'll sing on.

GREEN STREET (198)

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall, Let angels prostrate fall!

Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem!
And crown Him Lord of all!
And crown Him Lord of all!
And crown Him, crown Him,
crown Him, crown Him,

PLENARY (162)

Hark! from the tomb a doleful sound, Mine ears, attend the cry, Ye living men, come view the ground Where you must shortly lie.

Princes, this clay must be your bed, In spite of all your tow'rs; The tall, the wise, the rev'rend head, Must lie as low as ours.

Great God! Is this our certain doom?
And are we still secure?
Still walking downward to the tomb,
And yet prepared no more!

Span of Life (379)

My span of life will soon be gone
The passing moments say;
As length'ning shadows o'er the mead
Proclaim the close of day.
Oh, that my heart might dwell aloof
From all created things,
And learn that wisdom from above
Whence true contentment springs.

Ere first I drew this vital breath,
From nature's prison free,
Crosses in number, measure, weight,
Were written, Lord, for me.
But Thou my Shepherd, Friend, and Guide,
Hast kindly led me on,
Taught me to rest my fainting head
On Christ, the Cornerstone.

So comforted and so sustained With dark events I strove, And found them rightly understood, All messengers of love; With silent and submissive awe, Adored a chast'ning God, Revered the terrors of His law, And humbly kissed the rod.

Desire for Piety (768)

'Tis my desire with God to walk, Till the warfare is over, hallelujah. And with His children pray and talk, Till the warfare is over, hallelujah.

Cry Amen, pray on Till the warfare is over, hallelujah.

WHITE (288)

Ye fleeting charms of earth farewell, Your springs of joy are dry; My soul now seeks another home. A brighter world on high.

I'm a long time trav'ling here below,
I'm a long time trav'ling away from home,
I'm a long time trav'ling here below,
To lay this body down.

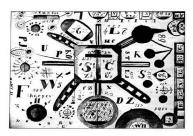
Farewell, my friends, whose tender care Has long engaged my love; Your fond embrace I now exchange For better friends above.

I'm a long time trav'ling...

Northfield (155)

How long, dear Savior, Oh how long? Shall this bright hour delay? Fly swift around, ye wheels of time, (x3) And bring the promised day.

From the third heaven, where God resides,
That holy, happy place,
The new Jerusalem comes down, (x3)
Adorned with shining grace.



CONFIDENCE (279)

Away, my unbelieving fear; Fear shall in me no more have place; My Savior doth not yet appear; He hides the brightness of His face;

But shall I therefore let Him go, And basely to the tempter yield? No, in the strength of Jesus, no! I never will give up my shield.

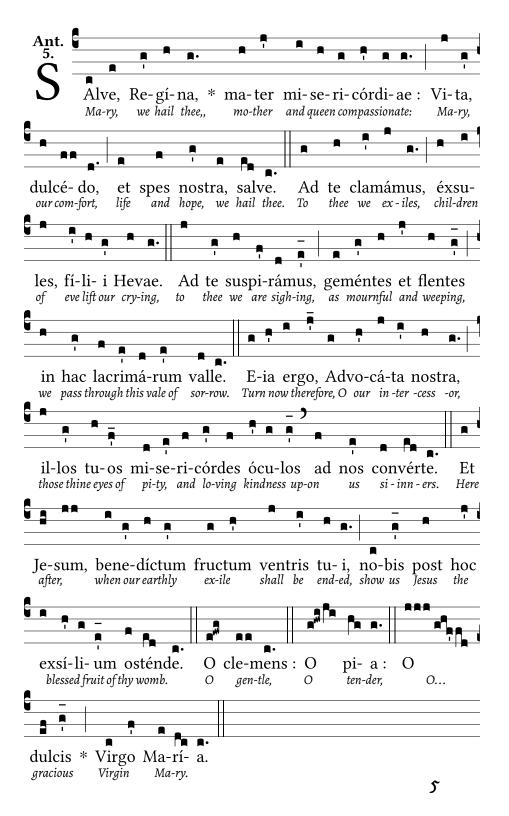
WINDHAM (38B)

Broad is the road that leads to death And thousands walk together there; But wisdom shows a narrow path, With here and there a traveler.

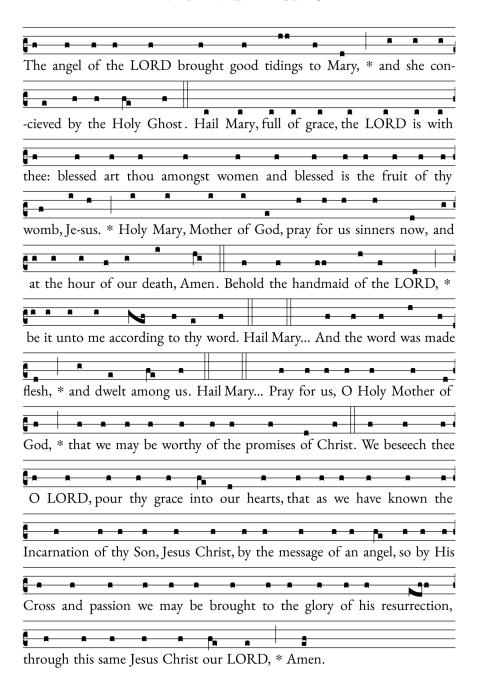
"Deny thyself, and take thy cross," Is the Redeemer's great command; Nature must count her gold but dross, If she would gain this heav'nly land.

The fearful soul that tires and faints And walks the ways of God no more, Is but esteemed almost a saint, And makes his own destruction sure.

Lord, let not all my hopes be vain, Create my heart entirely new, Which hypocrites could ne'er attain, Which false apostates never knew.



THE ANGELUS



Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save; his glories now we sing who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified; no angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends their burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me; thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

CHRIST IS RISEN (APPALACHIAN)



COME HOLY GHOST, CREATOR BLEST

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, and make our hearts your place of rest; come with your grace and heav'nly aid, and fill the hearts which you have made.

To you, the Counselor, we cry, to you, the gift of God most high, the fount of life, the fire of love, the soul's anointing from above.

In you, with graces sevenfold, we God's almighty hand behold while you with tongues of fire proclaim to all the world his holy name.

Your light to ev'ry thought impart, and shed your love in ev'ry heart; the weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate.

Drive far away our wily foe, and your abiding peace bestow; with you as our protecting guide, no evil can with us abide.

Teach us to know the Father, Son, and you, from both, as Three in One that we your name may ever bless and in our lives the truth confess.

Praise we the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, with them One, and may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow!

Doxology

Praise Him all creatures here below. Eternal truth attends Your word. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Your praise will sound from shore to shore, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Eternal are Your mercies, Lord. 'Til suns shall rise and set no more.

From all that dwell beneath the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise; Let our Redeemer's name be sung Through every land, by every tongue.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Song of Kings

Rex meus et Deus Rex meus Deus meus Intende exaudi orationem meam

Converte nos Deus Averte iram Tuam Rex meus et Deus Rex meus Deus meus

Beata Maria Salve Regina Mea

Rex meus et Deus Rex meus Deus meus Intende exaudi orationem meam

Paratum cor meum Cantabo psalmum dicam Afferte honorem Domino maiestatis

Converte nos Deus O salutaris noster Rex meus et Deus Rex meus Deus noster

Laudate Rex noster Angeli Archangeli Afferte honorem Domino maiestatis

Laudemus, Oremus Gloria, Alleluia

Venite, Videte Rex noster, Alleluia Rex meus et Deus Rex meus Deus noster

Ave Maria

Ave Maria
Gratia plena
Maria, gratia plena
Maria, gratia plena
Ave, ave dominus
Dominus tecum
Benedicta tu in mulieribus
Et benedictus
Et benedictus fructus ventris
Ventris tuae, Jesus.
Ave Maria

Ave Maria
Mater Dei
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus
Ora pro nobis
Ora, ora pro nobis peccatoribus
Nunc et in hora mortis
Et in hora mortis nostrae
Et in hora mortis nostrae
Et in hora mortis nostrae
Ave Maria...

DE PROFUNDIS

De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine; Domine. exaudi vocem meam Fiant aures tuæ intendentes In vocem deprecationis meæ Si iniquitates observaveris Domine, Domine, quis sustinebit? Quia apud te propitiatio est; Et propter legem tuam sustinui te, Domine Sustinuit anima mea in verbo ejus: Speravit anima mea in Domino A custodia matutina usque ad noctem Speret Israël in Domino Quia apud Dominum misericordia Et copiosa apud eum redemptio Et ipse redimet Israël Ex omnibus iniquitatibus ejus

9

O Sons & Daughters

O sons and daughters of the King, whom heavenly hosts in glory sing, today the grave has lost its sting. Alleluia!

That Easter morn at break of day, the faithful women went their way to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia!

An angel clad in white they see, who sat and spoke unto the three, "Your Lord has gone to Galilee." Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard that some had seen the risen Lord, he doubted the disciples' word. Lord, have mercy!

At night the apostles met in fear; among them came their Master dear and said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see, and look upon my hands, my feet; not faithless but believing be." Alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side. "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia!

GAUDETE

Gaudēte, gaudēte! Chrīstus est nātus Ex Marīā virgine, gaudēte!

Tempus adest grātiae Hoc quod optābāmus, Carmina laetitiae Dēvōtē reddāmus.

Gaudēte...

Deus homō factus est Nātūrā mirante, Mundus renovātus est Ā Chrīsto regnante.

Gaudēte...

Ezechiēlis porta Clausa pertrānsitur, Unde lūx est orta Salūs invenitur.

Gaudēte...

Ergō nostra cōntiō Psallat iam in lūstrō; Benedīcat Dominō: Salūs Regī nostrō.

Gaudēte...

10

SEA SHANTIES

A sea shanty, chantey, or chanty is a genre of traditional folk song that was once commonly sung as a work song to accompany rhythmical labor aboard large merchant sailing vessels.

EARLY IN THE MORNING

What do we do with a drunken sailor? (x3) Early in the morning?

Way hay and up she rises (x3) Early in the morning

Shave his belly with a rusty razor...
Put him in a long boat 'til he's sober...
Stick him in the scupper with a hosepipe on him...
Put him in the bed with the captain's daughter...
That's what we do with a drunken sailor...
Early in the morning!

ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

Oh, we'd be alright, if the wind was in our sails (x3) And we'll all hang on behind...

And we'll ro-o-oll the old chariot along! (x3) And we'll all hang on behind!

Oh, we'd be alright
if we make it round The Horn...
Well a nice wash below
wouldn't do us any harm...
Well a drop of Nelson's Blood
wouldn't do us any harm...
Well a night on the town
wouldn't do us any harm...

Haul on the Bowline

Haul on the bowline, homeward we are going

Haul on the bowlin', the bowlin' haul!

Haul on the bowline, before she start a-rolling

Haul on the bowline, the Captain is a-growling

Haul on the bowline, so early in the morning

Haul on the bowline, to Bristol we are going

Haul on the bowline, Kitty is my darling

Haul on the bowline, Kitty comes from Liverpool

Haul on the bowline, It's far cry to pay day

WELLERMAN

There once was a ship that put to sea And the name of that ship was the Billy o' Tea The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down Blow, me bully boys, blow (Hah!)

Soon may the Wellerman come To bring us sugar and tea and rum One day, when the tonguin' is done We'll take our leave and go

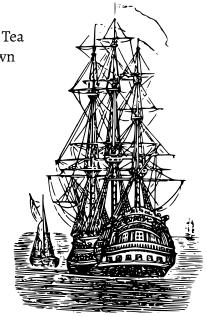
She had not been two weeks from shore When down on her, a right whale bore The captain called all hands and swore He'd take that whale in tow (Hah!)

Before the boat had hit the water The whale's tail came up and caught her All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her When she dived down below (Huh!)

No line was cut, no whale was freed The Captain's mind was not on greed But he belonged to the whaleman's creed She took that ship in tow (Huh!)

For forty days, or even more The line went slack, then tight once more All boats were lost, there were only four But still that whale did go

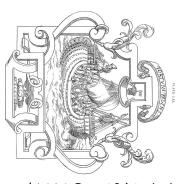
As far as I've heard, the fight's still on The line's not cut and the whale's not gone The Wellerman makes his a regular call To encourage the Captain, crew, and all



BARRET'S

PRIVATEERS

Oh, the year was 1778 To the scummiest vessel I've ever seen How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now A letter of marque came from the king



The last of Barrett's privateers Now I'm a broken man on a Halifax pier Condemn them all, I was told We'd fire no guns, shed no tears We'd cruise the seas for American gold

Oh, Elcid Barrett cried the town Would make for him the Antelope's crew For twenty brave men, all fishermen, who How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now

And the cook in the scuppers / She'd a list to the port and her sails in rags How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now The Antelope sloop was a sickening sight with the staggers and jags

Pumping like madmen all the way We were ninety-one days to Montego Bay How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now On the King's birthday, we put to sea

> On the ninety-sixth day, we sailed again With our cracked four pounders, we made to fight When a bloody great Yankee hove in sight How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now

She was broad and fat and loose in the stays The Yankee lay low down with gold But to catch her took the Antelope two whole days How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now

But with one fat ball, the Yank stove us in Our cracked four pounders made an awful din How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now Then at length, we stood two cables away

And the main truck carried off both me legs Barrett was smashed like a bowl of eggs How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now The Antelope shook and pitched on her side

So here I lay in my twenty-third year And I just made Halifax yesterday It's been six years since we sailed away How I wish I was in Sherbrooke now

Northwest Passage

Ah, for just one time
I would take the Northwest Passage
To find the hand of Franklin
Reaching for the Beaufort Sea
Tracing one warm line
Through a land so wild and savage
And make a Northwest Passage to the sea

Westward from the Davis Strait
'Tis there 'twas said to lie
The sea route to the Orient
For which so many died
Seeking gold and glory,
Leaving weathered, broken bones
And a long-forgotten lonely cairn of stones

Three centuries thereafter
I take passage overland
In the footsteps of brave Kelso
Where his "sea of flowers" began
Watching cities rise before me
Then behind me sink again
This tardiest explorer
Driving hard across the plain

And through the night, behind the wheel The mileage clicking west I think upon Mackenzie, David Thompson and the rest Who cracked the mountain ramparts And did show a path for me To race the roaring Fraser to the sea

How then am I so different
From the first men through this way?
Like them, I left a settled life
I threw it all away
To seek a Northwest Passage
At the call of many men
To find there but the road back home again

irish sonz

Isn't it grand, boys?

Look at the coffin with golden handles..

Isn'titgrand boys to be bloody well dead?
Let's not have a sniffle,
Let's have a bloody good cry
And always remember the longer you live,
The sooner you'll bloody well die!

... preacher, bloody sanctimonious...

... choir boys, bloody castrati...

... widow, bloody great female..

... mourners, bloody great hippocrites...

... flowers, all bloody wilted..

... tombstone, bloody great boulder..

... whiskey, in buckets and bottles...

RATTLIN' BOG

O-ro the rattlin' bog, the bog down in the valley-o O-ro the rattlin' bog, the bog down in the valley-o

And in that bog there was a tree, a rare tree, a rattlin' tree With the tree in the bog
And the bog down in the valley-o.

Now on that tree there was a limb, a rare limb, a rattlin' limb With the **limb** on the **tree** and the tree in the **bog** And the bog down in the valley-o.

Repeat, adding a line each time:

Now on that limb there was a **branch**, a rare branch, a rattlin' branch...

Now on that branch there was a **twig**, a rare twig, a rattlin' twig...

Now on that twig there was a **nest**, a rare nest, a rattlin' nest...

Now in that nest there was an **egg**, a rare egg, a rattlin' egg...

Now in that egg there was a **bird**, a rare bird, a rattlin' bird...

Now on that bird there was a **feather**, a rare feather, a rattlin' feather...

Now on that feather there was a **flea**, a rare flea, a rattlin' flea...

WHISKEY IN THE JAR

As I was going over the far famed Kerry mountains I met with captain Farrell and his money he was counting. I first produced my pistol, and then produced my rapier. Said stand and deliver, for I am a bold deceiver,

musha ring dumma do damma da whack for the daddy 'ol whack for the daddy 'ol there's whiskey 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 said and she swore, that she never would deceive me, but the devil take the women, for they never can be easy

I went into my chamber, all 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.

It was early in the morning, as I rose up for 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.

If anyone can aid me, it's my brother in the army,
If I can find his station down in Cork or in Killarney.
And if he'll come and save me, we'll go roving near Kilkenny,
And I swear he'll treat me better than me darling sportling Jenny

Now some men take delight in the drinking and the roving, But others take delight in the gambling and the smoking. But I take delight in the juice of the barley, And courting pretty fair maids in the morning bright and early

I'LL TELL ME MA

I'll tell my ma when I get home,
The boys won't leave the girls alone
They pull my hair and stole my comb
But that's all right till I go home
She is handsome, she is pretty,
She is the Belle of Belfast city
She is a courtin' one, two, three,
Please won't you tell me who is she?

Albert Mooney says he loves her,
All the boys are fightin' for her
Knock at the door and ring at the bell,
Saying oh my true love, are you well?
Out she comes as white as snow,
Rings on her fingers, bells on her toes
Ould Johnny Morrissey says she'll die
If she doesn't get the fella with the roving eye

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

THE WILD ROVER



I've been a wild rover for many's the year and I've spent all me money on whiskey and beer but now I'm returning with gold in great store and I never will play the wild rover no more

And it's no, nay, never! No, nay never no more.. will I play the wild rover, no never no more!

I went to an alehouse I used to frequent I told the landlady my money was spent I ask her for credit, she answered me nay such a custom as yours I can have any day

I brought from me pocket ten sovereigns bright and the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight she said:'I have whiskeys and wines of the best and the words that you told me were only in jest'

I'll go home to my parents, confess what I've done and I'll ask them to pardon their prodigal son and when they've caressed me, as oft times before I never will play the wild rover no more

GALWAY GIRL

Well, I took a stroll on the old long walk
Of a day -I-ay-I-ay
I met a little girl and we stopped to talk
Of a fine soft day -I-ay-I-ay
And I ask you, friend, what's a fella to do
'Cause her hair was black and her eyes were blue
And I knew right then I'd be takin' a whirl
'Round the Salthill Prom with a Galway girl

We were halfway there when the rain came down Of a day -I-ay-I-ay
And she asked me up to her flat downtown Of a fine soft day -I-ay-I-ay
And I ask you, friend, what's a fella to do 'Cause her hair was black and her eyes were blue So I took her hand and I gave her a twirl And I lost my heart to a Galway girl

When I woke up I was all alone
With a broken heart and a ticket home
And I ask you now, tell me what would you do
If her hair was black and her eyes were blue
I've traveled around I've been all over this world
Boys I ain't never seen nothin' like a Galway girl

AULD LANG SYNE

Should old acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should old acquaintance be forgot, and auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear, For auld lang syne, We'll take a cup o' kindness yet, For auld lang syne.

And surely you will fill your cup! And surely I'll fill mine! And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne. We two have run about the slopes and picked the daisies fine; But we've wandered many a weary foot since auld lang syne.

We two have paddled in the stream from morning sun till dine But seas between us broad have roared since auld lang syne.

And there's a hand my trusty friend And give me a hand o' thine And we'll take a right goodwill draught for auld lang syne

FINNEGAN'S WAKE

Tim Finnegan lived in Walkin Street
A gentle Irishman, mighty odd
He'd a beautiful brogue so rich and sweet
And to rise in the world he carried a hod
You see he'd a sort of the tipp' lin' way
With the love of the liquor, poor Tim was born
And to help him on with his work each day
He'd a drop of the craythur every morn

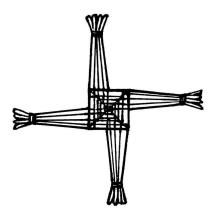
Whack fol the da, now, dance to your partner Welt the floor your trotters shake Wasn't it the truth I tell you Lots of fun at Finnegan's wake

One mornin' Tim was rather full
His head felt heavy, which made him shake
He fell from the ladder and he broke his skull
And they carried him home his corpse to wake
They rolled him up in a nice clean sheet
And laid him out upon the bed
With a gallon of whiskey at his feet
And a barrel of porter at his head

His friends assembled at the wake
And Mrs. Finnegan called for lunch
First they brought in tay and cake
Then pipes, tobacco and whiskey punch
Biddy O'Brien began to cry
"Such a nice clean corpse did you ever see?
Tim Mavourneen why did you die?"
"Arrah hold your gob" said Paddy McGee

Then Maggie O'Connor took up the job
"O Biddy," says she "you're wrong I'm sure"
Biddy gave her a belt in the gob
And left her sprawling on the floor
Then the war did soon engage
It was woman to woman and man to man
Shillelagh law was all the rage
And a row and a ruction soon began

Then Mickey Maloney raised his head When a bucket of whiskey flew at him It missed and falling on the bed The liquor scattered over Tim Tim revives, see how he rises Timothy rising from the bed Said "Whirl your whiskey around like blazes Thundering Jesus, do you think I'm dead?"



WILL YE GO, LASSIE, GO?

And we'll all go together To pluck wild mountain thyme All around the blooming heather Will ye go lassie, go?

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

If my true love, she were gone I would surely find another Where wild mountain thyme Grows around the blooming heather Will ye go lassie, go?

Oh, the summertime is coming And the trees are sweetly blooming And the wild mountain thyme Grows around the blooming heather Will ye go lassie, go?

Mathey Groves

Oh holy day, oh holy day
The first day of the year
Little Mathey Groves to church did go
Some holy words to hear,
(hear, some holy words to hear)

He spied some women dressed in black As they came into view Lord Daniel's wife was gaily clad The flower of the few...

She stepped up to little Mathey Groves Her eyes cast on the ground "Oh please oh please come with me stay As you pass through this town"...

"I cannot stay, I will not stay I fear 'twill cost my life For I can see by your finger-rings That you are Lord Daniel's wife"...

"Lord Daniel's in some distant land He's left me for to roam He's taken all his merry men And I am quite alone...

Oh please oh please come with me stay I'll hide you out of sight I'll pleasure you beyond compare And sleep with you all night"...

Her little footy-page was a-standing by Was hearing every word was said He said, "before the sun goes down Lord Daniel'll know what's said"...

He ran along the king's highway He swam against the tide And before the sun went down He's standing at Daniel's side...

"What news, what news, my little footy-page What news do you bring to me? My castle burned, my tenants wronged, My wife with a baby?"...

"No harm has come to your house or lands While you have been away But little Mathey Groves is a-huggin and a-kissin On your fair lady gay"...

"If what you say is not the truth As I take it to be I'll build a scaffold tower so high And hang-ed you will be"...

"If what I say is not the truth And false as false can be You need not build a scaffold tower, Just hang me from a tree"...

He gathered all his merry men And bid them with him go But warned them not to speak a word And not a horn to blow... But all among his merry men Was one who'd wish no ill He popped his horn up to his mouth And he blew both loud and shrill...

"Oh what is this" cried little Mathey Groves As he sat up in bed "I fear it is your husband's men And I will soon be dead"...

"Oh lie back down, my little Mathey Groves And keep my back from cold 'tis nothing but my father's men Calling their sheep to fold"...

Little Mathey Groves he lay back down And soon fell off to sleep When he woke up Lord Daniel was A-standing at his bed feet...

Saying, "How do you like my snow-white pillow, And how do you like my sheet? And how do you like my pretty little woman That's a-laying in your arms asleep?"...

"Very well do I like your snow-white pillow Very well do I like your sheet, Much better do I like this pretty little woman That's a-laying in my arms asleep"...

"Get up, get up, my little Mathey Groves And go put on your clothes In England it shall never be said That I killed a naked man"...

"I can't get up, I won't get up If fear 'twill cost my life For you have got two bitter swords And I ain't got a knife"...

"It's true I've got two bitter swords They cost me deep in the purse But you shall have the best of these And I will take the worst"...

The first stroke that little Mathey made It hurt Lord Daniel sore
The next stroke that Lord Daniel made Little Mathey hit the floor...

"Come here, come here my pretty little wife And set upon my knee And tell me which you like the best, Little Mathey Groves or me"...

She looked up in Lord Daniel's face She saw his jutting chin Said, "I wouldn't trade little Mathey Groves For you and all your kin"...

He took her by the lily-white hand He led her to the hall He took out his sword and he chopped off her head And he kicked it against the wall...

"Go dig a grave both wide and deep To bury these two in Just kick little Mathey over the side But lower my sweet wife in"...

20

THE ROCKY ROAD TO DUBLIN

In the merry month of June from me home I started Left the girls of Tuam nearly broken hearted Saluted Father dear, kissed me darling mother Drank a pint of beer, me grief and tears to smother Then off to reap the corn, leave where I was born Cut a stout blackthorn to banish ghosts and goblins A brand new pair of brogues, rattlin' o'er the bogs Frightenin' all the dogs on the rocky road to Dublin

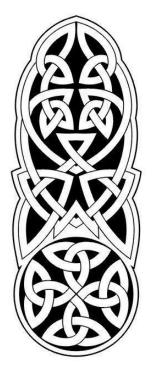
One two three four five Hunt the Hare and turn her down the rocky road And all the way to Dublin, Whack fol lol le rah!

In Mullingar that night I rested limbs so weary
Started by daylight me spirits bright and airy
Took a drop of the pure
Keep me heart from sinking
That's the Paddy's cure whenever he's on drinking
To see the lassies smile, laughing all the while
At me curious style, 'twould set your heart a bubblin'
An' asked if I was hired, wages I required
'Till I was nearly tired of the rocky road to Dublin

In Dublin next arrived, I thought it such a pity
To be soon deprived a view of that fine city
Well then I took a stroll, all among the quality
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, said me Connaught brogue
Wasn't much in vogue on the rocky road to Dublin

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 funny rigs Danced some hearty jigs, the water round me bubbling When off Holyhead wished meself was dead Or better far instead On the rocky road to Dublin

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 loud "Hurray!" joined in the affray We quickly cleared the way for the rocky road to Dublin





THE FIELDS OF ATHENRY

By a lonely prison wall
I heard a young girl calling
"Michael, they have taken you away
For you stole Trevelyan's corn
So the young might see the morn
Now a prison ship lies waiting in the bay"



Low lie the fields of Athenry Where once we watched the small free birds fly Our love was on the wing we had dreams and songs to sing It's so lonely 'round the fields of Athenry

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"

By a lonely harbour wall
She watched the last star falling
As that prison ship sailed out against the sky
For she lived in hope and pray
For her love in Botany Bay
It's so lonely 'round the fields of Athenry

MARIE'S WEDDING

Step we gaily, on we go Heel for heel and toe for toe Arm in arm and row on row All for Marie's wedding

Over hillways up and down Myrtle green and bracken brown Past the shielings through the town All for sake of Marie Red her cheeks as rowans are Bright her eyes as any star Fairest of them all by far Is our darling Marie

Oh plenty herring, plenty meal Plenty peat to fill her creel Plenty bonny bairns as well That's the toast for Marie

COUNTRY, etc.

WAGON WHEEL

Headin' down south to the land of the pines
I'm thumbin' my way into North Caroline
Starin' up the road and pray to God I see headlights
I made it down the coast in seventeen hours
Pickin' me a bouquet of dogwood flowers
And I'm a-hopin' for Raleigh, I can see my baby tonight

So, rock me mama like a wagon wheel
Rock me mama any way you feel
Hey... mama rock me
Rock me mama like the wind and the rain
Rock me mama like a southbound train
Hey... mama rock me



Runnin' 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-gettin' me down
Lost my money playin' poker, so I had to leave town
But I ain't a-turnin' back to livin' that old life no more

Walkin' to the south out of Roanoke
I caught a trucker out of Philly, had a nice long toke
But he's a-headin' west from the Cumberland Gap
To Johnson City, Tennessee
And I gotta get a move on before the sun
I hear my baby callin' my name and I know that she's the only one
And if I died in Raleigh, at least I will die free

BIG IRON

To the town of Agua Fria rode a stranger one fine day Hardly spoke to folks around him, didn't have too much to say No one dared to ask his business, no one dared to make a slip For the stranger there among them had a big iron on his hip

It was early in the morning when he rode into the town He came riding from the south side slowly lookin' all around He's an outlaw loose and running, came the whisper from each lip And he's here to do some business with the big iron on his hip

In this town there lived an outlaw by the name of Texas Red Many men had tried to take him and that many men were dead He was vicious and a killer though a youth of 24 And the notches on his pistol numbered one and 19 more

Now the stranger started talking, made it plain to folks around Was an Arizona ranger, wouldn't be too long in town He came here to take an outlaw back alive or maybe dead And he said it didn't matter he was after Texas Red

Wasn't long before the story was relayed to Texas Red But the outlaw didn't worry men that tried before were dead 20 men had tried to take him, 20 men had made a slip 21 would be the ranger with the big iron on his hip

The morning passed so quickly, it was time for them to meet It was 20 past 11 when they walked out in the street Folks were watching from the windows, everybody held their breath They knew this handsome ranger was about to meet his death

There was 40 feet between them when they stopped to make their play And the swiftness of the ranger is still talked about today Texas Red had not cleared leather 'fore a bullet fairly ripped And the ranger's aim was deadly with the big iron on his hip

It was over in a moment and the folks had gathered round There before them lay the body of the outlaw on the ground Oh, he might have went on living but he made one fatal slip When he tried to match the ranger with the big iron on his hip

Big iron, big iron
When he tried to match the ranger with the big iron on his hip
Big iron on his hip

COUNTRY ROADS

Almost heaven, West Virginia Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River Life is old there, older than the trees Younger than the mountains, growin' like a breeze

Country roads, take me home To the place I belong West Virginia, mountain mama Take me home, country roads

All my memories gather 'round her Miner's lady, stranger to blue water Dark and dusty, painted on the sky Misty taste of moonshine, teardrop in my eye

I hear her voice in the mornin' hour, she calls me The radio reminds me of my home far away Drivin' down the road, I get a feelin' That I should've been home yesterday, yesterday

I'm Just an Old Chunk of Coal

Hey, I'm just an old chunk of coal But I'm gonna be a diamond some day I'm gonna grow and glow 'til I'm so blue pure perfect I'm gonna put a smile on everybody's face

I'm gonna kneel and pray every day Lest I should become vain along the way I'm just an old chunk of coal now, Lord But I'm gonna be a diamond some day

I'm gonna learn the best way to walk I'm gonna search and find a better way to talk I'm gonna spit and polish my old rough-edged self 'Til I get rid of every single flaw

I'm gonna be the world's best friend I'm gonna go 'round shaking everybody's hand Hey, I'm gonna be the cotton pickin' rage of the age I'm gonna be a diamond some day

SIXTEEN TONS

Some people say a man is made outta mud A poor man's made outta muscle and blood Muscle and blood and skin and bones A mind that's a-weak and a back that's strong

You load 16 tons, what do you get? Another day older and deeper in debt St. Peter, don't you call me 'cause I can't go I owe my soul to the company store

I was born one mornin' when the sun didn't shine I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine I loaded 16 tons of number nine coal And the straw boss said, "Well, a-bless my soul"

I was born one mornin', it was drizzlin' rain Fightin' and trouble are my middle name I was raised in the canebrake by an ol' mama lion Can't no high toned woman make me walk the line

If you see me comin', better step aside A lotta men didn't, a lotta men died One fist of iron, the other of steel If the right one don't get you Then the left one will



RYE WHISKEY

Jack o' Diamond, Jack o' Diamond, I know you of old You've robbed my poor pockets of silver and gold It's a whiskey, you villain, you've been my downfall You've kicked me, you've cuffed me, but I love you for all

And it's a whiskey, rye whiskey, rye whiskey I cry If I don't get rye whiskey, well, I think I will die

It's a beefsteak when I'm hungry, Rye whiskey when I'm dry Greenbacks when I'm hard up, and Heaven when I die I'll a-go up around the holl-er and I'll build me a still I'll sell you a gallon for a five dollar bill

2.0

THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS

In 1814 we took a little trip Along with Colonel Jackson down the mighty Mississip' We took a little bacon and we took a little beans And we caught the bloody British in the town of New Orleans

We fired our guns and the British kept a-comin' There wasn't as many as there was a while ago We fired once more and they began to runnin' On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico

We looked down a river and we see'd the British come And there must have been a hundred of 'em beatin' on the drum They stepped so high and they made their bugles ring We stood behind our cotton bales and didn't say a thing

Old Hickory said, "We could take 'em by surprise If we didn't fire our muskets 'til we looked 'em in the eye" We held our fire 'til we see'd their faces well Then we opened up our squirrel guns and gave 'em

Yeah, they ran through the briers and they ran through the brambles And they ran through the bushes where a rabbit couldn't go They ran so fast that the hounds couldn't catch 'em On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico

We fired our cannon 'til the barrel melted down So we grabbed an alligator and we fought another round We filled his head with cannonballs 'n' powdered his behind And when we touched the powder off, the gator lost his mind

Yeah, they ran through the briers and they ran through the brambles And they ran through the bushes where a rabbit couldn't go They ran so fast that the hounds couldn't catch 'em On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Riding on the City of New Orleans
Illinois Central, Monday morning rail
15 cars and 15 restless riders
Three conductors, 25 sacks of mail
All along the southbound odyssey
The train pulls out of Kankakee
Rolls along past houses, farms, and fields
Passing trains that have no name
An' freight yards full of old black men
And the graveyards of the rusted automobiles

Good morning, America, how are ya? Said don't you know me? I'm your native son I'm the train they call the City of New Orleans I'll be gone 500 miles when the day is done

Dealing card games with the old men in the club car
Penny a point, ain't no one keeping score
Pass the paper bag that holds the bottle
Feel the wheels rumbling 'neath the floor
And the sons of Pullman porters
And the sons of engineers
Ride their fathers' magic carpets made of steel
Mothers with their babes asleep
Are rockin' to the gentle beat
And the rhythm of the rails is all they feel

Nighttime on the City of New Orleans
Changing cars in Memphis, Tennessee
Halfway home, we'll be there by morning
Through the Mississippi darkness, rolling down to the sea
But all the towns and people seem to fade into a bad dream
And the steel rail still ain't heard the news
The conductor sings his songs again
The passengers will please refrain
This train got the disappearing railroad blues

JOHN HENRY

Well, John Henry was a little baby Sittin' on his dady's knee He pick up a hammer and a little piece of steel, And cried, "Hammer's gonna be the death of me, Lord, Lord... (x2)

Now the captain he said to John Henry,
"I'm gonna bring that steam drill around
I'm gonna bring that steam drill out on these tracks
I'm gonna knock that steel on down, God, God... (x2)

John Henry told his captain, "Lord, man ain't nothin' but a man But efore I let that steam drill beat me down I'm gonna die with a hammer in my hand, Lord, Lord..." (x2)

John Henry driving on the right side That steam drill driving on the left Says, "'Fore I'll let your steam drill beat me down I'm gonna hammer myself to death, Lord, Lord, ..." (x2)

Well, captain said to John Henry,
"What is that storm I hear?"
John Henry said, "That ain't no storm Captain
That's just my hammer in the air, Lord, Lord..." (x2)

John Henry said to his shaker "Shaker, why don't you sing? 'Cause I'm swigin' thirty pounds from my hips on down Yeah, listen to my cold steel ring, Lord, Lord..." (x2)

John Henry, he hammered in the mountains His hammer was striking fire But he worked so hard; it broke his heart John Henry laid down his hammer and died, Lord, Lord..." (x2)

Well, now John Henry, he had him a woman By the name of Polly Ann She walked out to those tracks Picked up John Henry's hammer Polly drove steel like a man, Lord, Lord... (x2)

Well every, every Monday morning When the blue bird he begin to sing You could hear John Henry from a mile or more You could hear John Henry's hammer ring, Lord, Lord... (x2)

WITCHITA LINEMAN

I am a lineman for the county, And I drive the main road Searchin' in the sun for another overload

I hear you singing in the wire, I can hear you through the whine And the Wichita lineman - is still on the line

I know I need a small vacation, but it don't look like rain And if it snows that stretch down south, won't ever stand the strain

And I need you more than want you, and I want you for all time And the Wichita lineman - is still on the line

FIVE FEET HIGH AND RISING

How high's the water, Mama? (two) feet high and risin' How high's the water, Papa? She said it's (two) feet high and risin'

We can make it to the road in a homemade boat That's the only thing we got left that'll float It's already over all the wheat and the oats Two feet high and risin'

Well, the hives are gone I've lost my bees The chickens are sleepin' In the willow trees Cow's in water up past her knees Three feet high and risin'

Hey, come look through the window pane The bus is comin', gonna take us to the train Looks like we'll be blessed with a little more rain Four feet high and risin'

Well, the rails are washed out north of town We gotta head for higher ground We can't come back till the water goes down Five feet high and risin' Well, it's five feet high and risin'

Hospel, etc.

Down to the River to Pray

As I went down in the river to pray Studying about that good old way And who shall wear the robe and crown Good Lord, show me the way! As I went down in the river to pray Studying about that good old way And who shall wear the starry crown Good Lord, show me the way!

O sisters let's go down Let's go down, come on down Come on sisters let's go down Down in the river to pray O brothers let's go down...

O fathers let's go down...

O mothers let's go down...

O sinners let's go down...

Jacob's Ladder

We are climbing Jacob's ladder, (x3) Soldiers of the cross.

Children, do you love my Jesus? (x3) Soldiers of the cross.

Ev'ry round goes higher, higher, (x3) Soldiers of the cross.

If you love Him, why not serve Him? (x3) Soldiers of the cross.

Rise, shine, give God glory, (x3) Soldiers of the cross.

KEEP YOUR LAMPS TRIMMED

Keep those lamps trimmed, now Keep those lamps trimmed Midnight's comin' in Won't you keep those lamps trimmed? My soul waits for more than sentinels The Lord, for He comes with mercy

You do not know the day
And you do not know the hour
Keep watch, stay awake
You do not know the day

Got no time to waste, now Got no time to waste Bridegroom's coming soon Ain't got no time to waste

From the depths I cry Lord, for He comes with mercy

WEIGHT OF ETERNAL GLORY

I grew up in Jackson County
In a West Virginia farmhouse
We had many hands a-working
And so many miles to tread
I asked Mama how she's able
To go one day to another
She took up the family Bible
Looked at me, and then she said

I am suffering under the weight of eternal glory
I find my place in the Good Lord's story
I keep His promises by my bed
Take the hand of the Loving Savior
Guides my way while I still stay here
You can find the same way yourself, dear
If you just let yourself be led

Found myself down in Nashville
In a place just off of Broadway
Sitting at the bar was a lovely cowgirl
She had a teardrop in her eye
I said, "Lady, do I know you
If I don't, then I think that I'd like to"
She just turned to me with sadness
And said, "Honey, I'm not gonna lie"

Was a late night in December
I was traveling through the canyon
My truck went off the road near the highway
I was barely left alive
The nurse that took my hand said "Mister
The doctors said you are barely stable"
She put the cross into my hand
I looked her in the face, and then I cried

I'LL FLY AWAY

Some glad morning when this life is over I'll fly away

To a home on God's celestial shore I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away When I die, Hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then I'll fly away To a land where joy shall never end I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away When I die, Hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away

In the Highways

In the highways, in the hedges If He calls me, I will answer In the highways, in the hedges If He calls me, I will answer In the highways, in the hedges If He calls me, I will answer

I'll be somewhere workin' for my Lord I'll be somewhere workin' for my Lord

I'll be somewhere workin'
I'll be somewhere workin'
I'll be somewhere workin'
I'll be somewhere workin'

I'll be somewhere workin' for my Lord I'll be somewhere workin' for my Lord

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE

You are my sunshine
My only sunshine
You make me happy
When skies are gray
You'll never know, dear
How much I love you
Please don't take
My sunshine away

The other night, dear As I lay sleeping I dreamed I held you In my arms When I awoke, dear I was mistaken So I hung my head and cried You are my sunshine
My only sunshine
You make me happy
When skies are gray
You'll never know, dear
How much I love you
Please don't take
My sunshine away

O DEATH

Won't you spare me over til another year Well what is this that I can't see With ice cold hands takin' hold of me

Well I am death, none can excel / I'll open the door to heaven or hell Whoa, death someone would pray / Could you wait to call me another day

The children prayed, the preacher preached Time and mercy is out of your reach I'll fix your feet til you cant walk / I'll lock your jaw til you cant talk

I'll close your eyes so you can't see / This very hour, come and go with me I'm death I come to take the soul / Leave the body and leave it cold

To draw up the flesh off of the frame Dirt and worm both have a claim O, Death - O, Death

Won't you spare me over til another year My mother came to my bed / Placed a cold towel upon my head

My head is warm my feet are cold / Death is a-movin upon my soul Oh, death how you're treatin' me / You've close my eyes so I can't see

Well you're hurtin' my body / You make me cold You run my life right outta my soul / Oh death please consider my age

Please don't take me at this stage / My wealth is all at your command If you will move your icy hand /Oh the young, the rich or poor Hunger like me you know / No wealth, no ruin, no silver no gold Nothing satisfies me but your soul

O, death
O, death
Wont you spare me over til another year
Wont you spare me over til another year
Wont you spare me over til another year

