

Revels RiverSing Song Texts September 17, 2017

1. SAIL AWAY, LADIES (Traditional)

Ain't no use to sit and cry
Sail away ladies, sail away.
You'll be an angel by and by
Sail away ladies, sail away.

Chorus: Don't you rock 'em die-dy-o (4x)

I gotta home in Tennessee Sail away...
That's the place I wanna be Sail away...

Chorus

Ever I get my new house done Sail away...
I'll give the old one to my son Sail away...

Chorus

3. I'LL FLY AWAY (A. Brumley)

Some bright morning
When this life is o'er, I'll fly away
To that home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Chorus: I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away.
When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.
When the shadows
Of this life have grown, I'll fly away
Like a bird that prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.

Chorus

Just a few more weary days and then...
To a land where joys will never end...

Chorus

2. SAIL AWAY, LADIES (arr. Malcolm Dalglish/M. Henderson)

Dark clouds hide the sun.
Rain comes down and the rivers run.
Rivers run down to the sea, and when you've got your
liberty..
Don't you want to sail away?

Don't you want to sail away?...
Sail away ladies sail away...

Sail on. It's time to go. Sail on.
You build a boat. Sail on.
Don't let it float away from you. Sail on.

There's a place to go. Sail on.
You built a boat. Sail on.
The wind will blow behind you.
Sail away ladies, sail away..

4. WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN (C. Gabriel)

I was standing by my window one cold and cloudy day
when I saw that hearse come rolling for to carry my
mother away.

Chorus: Will the circle be unbroken, by and by Lord, by
and by?
There's a better home a-waitin in the sky Lord, in the sky
Well I told that undertaker, "Undertaker, please drive slow.
For that body you are hauling, Lord I hate to see her go."

Chorus

Well I followed close behind her, tried to hold up and be
brave.
But I could not hide my sorrow when they laid her in the
grave.

Chorus

Went back home Lord, my home was lonesome. Missed
my mother. She was gone.
All my brothers, sister crying, what a home so sad and
alone.

Chorus

We sang songs, songs of childhood, hymns of faith that
made us strong.
Ones that mother Maybelle taught us, hear the angels sing
along.

5. ROLL THE OLD CHARIOT

(African American Spiritual/Traditional Chantey)

We'd be alright if the wind was in our sails,
We'd be alright if the wind was in our sails,
We'd be alright if the wind was in our sails,
An' we'll all hang on behind!

Chorus: So we'll roll the old chariot along!
We'll roll the old chariot along!
So we'll roll the old chariot along!
An' we'll all hang on behind!

We'd be alright if we make it round the horn,
We'd be alright if we make it round the horn,
We'd be alright if we make it round the horn,
An' we'll all hang on behind!

Chorus

A night on the town wouldn't do us any harm,
A night on the town wouldn't do us any harm,
A night on the town wouldn't do us any harm,
An' we'll all hang on behind!

Chorus

Now a swim in the Charles wouldn't do us any harm,
Now a swim in the Charles wouldn't do us any harm,
Now a swim in the Charles wouldn't do us any harm,
An' we'll all hang on behind!

Chorus

7. TIME IS A TEMPEST (John Broomhall)

Chorus: Time is a tempest and we are all travellers
We are all travellers, we are all travellers
Time is a tempest and we are all travellers
Travelling through the storm.

So lift up your voices and sing of the wind and rain
Sing of the wind and rain, sing of the wind and rain
Lift up your voices and sing of the wind and rain travelling through the storm.

Chorus

So we'll keep our arms open through all kinds of weather.
When there's sorrow and suffering, may we be there together.
And we'll turn this around tho' it takes us forever. What else in the world can we do?

But there are places of beauty with pathways of beauty with pathways to guide us.
Sunrise and sunsets are never denied us.
Deep in our hearts, no walls will divide us, we may yet find our way to the stars.

Chorus

6. SWING DOWN CHARIOT (Traditional)

Chorus:

Why don't you swing down, chariot, stop and let me
ride? (2x)
Rock me, Lord, rock me, Lord, calm and easy,
I've got a home on the other side.

Well, Ezekiel went down in the middle of the field,
He saw an angel workin' on a chariot wheel.
He wasn't so particular 'bout the chariot wheel,
He just want to see how the chariot feels.

Chorus

Well, Ezekiel went down and he got on board,
The chariot wheel a-bumpin' on down that old road.
He wasn't so particular 'bout the bumpin' of the road
He just want to lay down his heavy load.

Chorus

8. APRIL, COME SHE WILL (Paul Simon)

April come she will
When streams are ripe
And swelled with rain
May she will stay
Resting in my arms again
June she'll change her tune
In restless walks she'll prowl the night

July she will fly
And give no warning to her flight
August die she must
The autumn winds blow chilly and cold
September I remember
A love once new has now grown old

9. DOWN THE RIVER I GO (Traditional)

Eighteen pounds of meat a week, and cotton for to sell,
How can a young man stay at home when the pretty girls
look so well?

Chorus: Down the river I go, Uncle Joe, down the river I go.
Down the river I go, Uncle Joe, down the river I go

If I had a needle and thread and find that I could sew,
I'd sew that pretty girl to my coat and down the river I'd
go.

Chorus

Going up a mountain for to give my horn a blow;
Thought I heard that pretty girl sing, down the river I go.

Chorus

A horse and buggy to carry us home, and down the river I
go;
Little feet won't touch the ground and down the river I go.

Chorus

Come along and go with me, down the river we go;
Carry me back to Tennessee, down the river I go.

10. PUFF THE MAGIC DRAGON (Leonard Lipton, Peter Yarrow)

Puff, the magic dragon lived by the sea
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called
Honnah Lee
Little Jackie Paper loved that rascal Puff
And brought him strings and sealing wax and other
fancy stuff, oh!

Chorus: Puff the magic dragon lived by the sea
And frolicked n the autumn mist in a land called
Honnah Lee
Puff the magic dragon lived by the sea
And frolicked n the autumn mist in a land called
Honnah Lee

Together they would travel on a boat with billowed sail
Jackie kept a lookout perched on Puff's gigantic tail
Noble kings and princes would bow whene'er they
came

Pirate ships would lower their flags when Puff roared
out his name, oh!

Chorus

A dragon lives forever but not so little boys
Painted wings and giant rings make way for other toys
One grey night it happened, Jackie Paper came no
more
And Puff that mighty dragon, he ceased his fearless
roar

His head was bent in sorrow, green scales fell like rain
Puff no longer went to play along the cherry lane
Without his life-long friend, Puff could not be brave
So Puff that mighty dragon sadly slipped into his cave,
oh!

Chorus

11. KITTY ALONE (arr. Malcolm Dalglish)

Saw a crow flyin' low. Kitty alone a lie.
Saw a crow flyin' low, and a cat spinning tow.
Kitty alone a lie. Rock-a-ma rye ree.

Big old owl in a tree. Kitty alone, kitty alone.
Looks as sleepy as he can be.
Kitty alone a lie. Rock-a-ma rye ree.

Big old possum in a log. Kitty alone, kitty alone.
Big old possum in a log, looks just like a big groundhog.
Kitty alone, a lie. Rock-a-ma rye ree.

Way up yonder 'bove the moon, kitty alone a lie.
Way up yonder 'bove the moon, the bluebird sits in a
silver spoon.
Kitty alone a lie. Rock-a-ma rye ree.

12. BY THE WATERS OF BABYLON (P. Hayes)

By the waters, the waters of Babylon
We lay down and wept for Thee, Zion.
We remember Thee, remember Thee, remember Thee
Zion.

14. WHEN I'M SIXTYFOUR (Lennon-McCartney)

When I get older, losing my hair, many years from now
Will you still be sending me a Valentine, birthday greetings, bottle of wine?

If I'd been out 'till quarter to three, would you lock the door?
Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm sixty-four?

Hmmmmmmmmh
You'll be older, too
Aaah, and if you say the word, I could stay with you
I could be handy, mending a fuse, when your lights have gone
You can knit a sweater by the fireside, Sunday mornings, go for a ride
Doing the garden, digging the weeds, who could ask for more?
Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm sixty four?

Every summer we can rent a cottage in the Isle of Wight if it's not too dear
We shall scrimp and save
Ah, grandchildren on your knee, Vera, Chuck, and Dave

Send me a postcard, drop me a line stating point of view
Indicate precisely what you mean to say, yours sincerely wasting away
Give me your answer, fill in a form, mine forever more
Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm sixty four?

13. RIPPLE (Jerry Garcia)

If my words did glow with the gold of sunshine
And my tunes were played on the harp unstrung,
Would you hear my voice come through the music?
Would you hold it near, as it were your own?

It's a hand-me-down, the thoughts are broken,
Perhaps they're better left unsung. I don't know, don't
really care

Let there be songs to fill the air. Ripple in still water,
When there is no pebble tossed, Nor wind to blow.

Reach out your hand if your cup be empty,
If your cup is full may it be again,
Let it be known there is a fountain,
That was not made by the hands of man.

There is a road, no simple highway,
Between the dawn and the dark of night,
And if you go, no one may follow,
That path is for your steps alone.

Ripple in still water,
When there is no pebble tossed,
Nor wind to blow

15. ROWING DOWN THE RIVER (David Coffin)

Well, the River Charles is not so wide;
Rowing up, rowing down,
She's got a little current but not much tide
To go rowing down the river.

Chorus

Keep an eye out, mind your scull...
Mighty long oars for a narrow hull...

Chorus: Rowing up, rowing down, From Hopkinton to
Charlestown;
You can't go straight so meander 'round
To go rowing down the river.

Chorus

92 bridges and 24 dams...
That's why a coxswain's a mighty good plan...

Harvard, M.I.T., B.U.,
Rowing up, rowing down,
You gotta regatta so join the crew...
To go rowing down the river.

Chorus

The Charles River Conservancy...
Keeping it clean for you and me...

Chorus
Singles, pairs, fours and eights...
Get up early, do not be late...

Chorus

16. RED RIVER VALLEY (Traditional)

From this valley they say you are going,
We will miss your bright eyes and sweet smile,
For they say you are taking the sunshine
That has brightened our pathways a while.

And the girl that has loved you so true.

As you go to your home in the ocean,
May you never forget those sweet hours,
That we spent in the Red River Valley,
And the vows we exchanged 'Mid the flowers.

Chorus

Chorus: Come and sit by my side if you love me;
Do not hasten to bid me adieu,
But remember the Red River Valley,

17. SHOWER THE PEOPLE (James Taylor)

You can play the game and you can act out the part, even though you know it wasn't written for you.
Tell me, how can you stand there with your broken heart ashamed of playing the fool?
One thing can lead to another; it doesn't take any sacrifice.
Oh, father and mother, sister and brother, if it feels nice, don't think twice,

Chorus: Just shower the people you love with love, show them the way that you feel.
Things are gonna work out fine if you only will do as I say,
just shower the people you love with love, show them the way you feel.

Things are gonna be much better if you only will.
You can run but you cannot hide, this is widely known.
Tell me, what you plan to do with your foolish pride when you're all by yourself, alone.
Once you tell somebody the way that you feel, you can feel it beginning to ease.
I think it's true what they say about the squeaky wheel always getting the grease.

Chorus

Shower the people you love with love, show them the way that you feel.
You'll feel better right away. Don't take much to do, sell you pride.
They say in every life, they say the rain must fall, just like pouring rain, make it rain.
Make it rain, love, love, love is sunshine, oh yes,
Make it rain, love, love, love is sunshine. Everybody, everybody.

18. PROUD MARY (John Fogerty)

Left a good job in the city
Workin' for the man ev'ry night and day
And I never lost one minute of sleepin'
Worryin' 'bout the way things might have been

Chorus: Big wheel keep on turnin'
Proud Mary keep on burnin'
Rollin', rollin', rollin' on the river

Cleaned a lot of plates in Memphis
Pumped a lot of pane down in New Orleans
But I never saw the good side of the city
'Til I hitched a ride on a river boat queen

Chorus

If you come down to the river
Bet you gonna find some people who live
You don't have to worry 'cause you have [if you got] no
money
People on the river are happy to give

Chorus

20. RIVER HYMN (George Emlen/ Navaho Prayer)

Chorus: Now I walk in beauty, beauty is before me;
Beauty is behind me, above me and below me

O river, take us onward from the mountains to the sea;
O sing the gentle verses of your endless melody

O summer, fare thee well, you know we have to let you go;
We'll hold you in our memories through the winter's cold and
snow

19. MICHAEL ROW THE BOAT ASHORE

Chorus: Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah

Sister help to trim the sails, Hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sails, Hallelujah

Jordan's river is deep and wide, Hallelujah
And I've got a home on the other side, Hallelujah

Chorus

Michael's boat is a music boat, Hallelujah
Michael's boat is a music boat, Hallelujah

Chorus

The trumpets sound the jubilee, Hallelujah
The trumpets sound for you and me, Hallelujah

Chorus

The green gives way to crimson as the summer yields to fall;
The mists are in the valleys, you can hear the wild geese call.

The beauty of our planet as she spins around the sun;
The mystery of our seasons as the autumn is begun.

The days are ever shorter with the dying of the light;
We celebrate the autumn as the day slips into night.