

Song Lyrics

Song for Canada

Sing!! Sing a new song,
Sing loud and strong
Sing of this land of our hopes and our dreams.
Rich harmonies Of races and creeds
Join in the chorus from sea unto sea ----
where the whale's ancient Lullaby ----
Meets the song of the wind in the whisp'ring pines
All our Voices – come together always singing
“Land of Tomorrow, Your time has come”

Oui – Qu'un nouveau chant Dise a present
Un voeu d'accord qui doit remplir nos cœurs
Peuples divers Touchant les deux mers,
Heureux voisins, ne formez qu'un seul cœur
Pour melanger tous vos accents
aux refrains des cognees dansant sous les vent
Que nos voix ensemble chantent et rechangent
« Oui – Bel Aujourd'hui Vois mon pays »

Sing!! Sing of new Birth
Sing of the Earth
Sing of great mountains that reach for the sky.
Proud cities swell – Vast plains do tell
Of the promise and hope for the future that lies
in the loon's timeless melody,
In the cry of an eagle that's soaring free.
All our Voices come together, singing
“Land of Tomorrow – Your time has come”

Emily Carr Suite – So Still

So still were the big woods
where I sat,
sound might not yet have been born.
Feel their protecting spread,
their uplifting rise,
their solid immovable strength.
See God in it all,
enter into the life of the trees,
the silence full of sound.
Everything is green.
Everything is waiting and still.
Everything is alive, alive, alive.
So still were the big woods
where I sat,
sound might not yet have been born.

Twenty-Three Camels

It came about on the month of May
Twenty-three camels sailed away
Twenty-three camels bound for Yale,
on the road to the Cariboo.

Where the camels came from no-one knew
In the Cariboo in the days of old
From the U. S. Army or the old Manchoo?
In the Cariboo in the days of gold
Maybe Arizona on a railway crew?
In the Cariboo in the day
On the road to the Cariboo

But twenty-three camels, that's a twist,
you've never seen a sight like this!
Run like the devil when the camels hiss!
On the road to the Cariboo.

Now ships of the desert was the camel's fame
In the Cariboo in the days of old
They could carry a half of a ton, was claimed
In the Cariboo in the days of gold
'Til their feet look tender and they all look lame.

In the Cariboo in the day
They were auctioned off away.
But twenty-three camels, that's a sight,
when the donkey brays,
the horse takes flight,
it's a wonder everybody didn't die of fright
on the road to the Cariboo

They kicked and spit at anything that moved
In the Cariboo in the days of old
They smelled so bad they scared the mules
In the Cariboo in the days of gold
Caused so much trouble that the teamsters sued
Cariboo in the day
Their disruptions to curtail.

But twenty-three camels, that's a twist,
you've never seen a sight like this!
Run like the devil when the camels hiss!
On the road to the Cariboo.

Magnetic North

Late winter, early spring
we have just begun.

Some see the mountains
some see the streams
some say the Yukon's
not what it seems.
Some see the wild geese smile as they pass
Yukon's for everyone, let's make it last.

Some find a comfort in every sounding
some feel the warmth though snow's on the ground.
Some see the sun in skies overcast
Yukon's for everyone, let's make it last.

Some see the rivers
some see the gold
some live the mystery, stories untold.
Some feel the magic dreams of the past
Yukon's for everyone, let's make it last.

Late winter, early spring
we have just begun.
Share the magic she will bring
here in the land of the midnight sun.

Four Strong Winds

Chorus

Four strong winds that blow lonely,
seven seas that run high
All those things that don't change, come what may
But our good times are all gone,
and I'm bound for moving on
I'll look for you if I'm ever back this way.

Think I'll go out to Alberta,
weather's good there in the fall
I got some friends that I could go to working for
Still I wish you'd change your mind,

If I asked you one more time
But we've been through that a hundred times or more
Chorus

If I get there before the snow flies,
and if things are going good
You could meet me if I sent you down the fare
But by then it would be winter,
there ain't too much for you to do
And those winds sure can blow cold way out there
Chorus

Lark

Little astronaut, where have you gone
and how is your song still, song still,
song still torrenting, torrenting on?
Aren't you short of breath, short of breath,
short of breath as you climb, as you climb
as you climb higher, higher, higher,
up there up there in the thin air, thin air
with your magical song still, song still, song still
tumbling, tumbling, tumbling on?
Right now I need you, for my sadness
has come again
and my heart grows, grows, grows flatter, flatter
Oh, so I'm coming to find you
coming to find you, by following your song.
Keeping, keeping on into deep space
past dying stars and exploding suns
to where, at last
little astronaut, you sing your heart out
at all dark matter.

Red River Valley

From this valley they say you are going
I shall miss your bright eyes and sweet smile
For alas you take with the sunshine
that has brightened my pathway a while
Come and sit by my side if you love me,
do not hasten to bid me adieu
but remember the Red River Valley
and the girl who has loved you so true.
For this long, long time I have waited
for the words that you never would say
but now my last hope has vanished
when you tell me you're going away.
When you go to your home by the ocean
may you never forget the sweet hours
that we spent in the Red River Valley
or the vows we exchanged mid the bowers.
Will you think of the valley you're leaving?
Oh, how lonely and dreary 'twill be!
Will you think of the fond heart you're breaking
and be true to your promise to me.
The dark maiden's prayer for her lover
to the spirit that rules o'er the world
his pathway with sunshine may cover,
leave his grief to the Red River girl.
There could never be such a longing
in the heart of a white maiden's breast
as dwells in heart you are breaking
with love for the boy who came west.

Wake the Grain

One by one they step to the earth
and hoping for prairies' birth,
plant blossom within the breath,
grow song.
With song the seeds intone a level harmony
voices disperse throughout the land
like flinging seeds from our hands,
and spring up within the breath
grow song.
We'll wake the grain and choirs will sing
Alleluia!
Voices disperse throughout the land
like flinging grain from our hands,
no king but work, no god but peace.
White armies only winter storms.
From this ground grow hymns that hint at peace.
Wake and sing, Alleluia
Now home, grow hymns that hint at peace.

Black Fly Song

'Twas early in the spring when I decide to go
For to work up in the woods in north On-tar-i-o
The unemployment office said they'd see me through
To the Little Abitibi with the survey crew
Chorus:
And the black fly, the little black fly
Always the black fly, no matter where you go
I'll die with the black fly pickin' my bones
In North On-tar-i-o-i-o, in North On-tar-i-o
Now the man, Black Toby was the captain of the crew
And he said, "I'm gonna tell you boys
what we're gonna do
They want to build a power dam and
we must find a way
For to make the little Ab flow around the other way"
Chorus
So we survey to the east and we survey to the west
And we couldn't make our minds up how to do it best
Little Ab, Little Ab, what shall I do
For I'm all but goin' crazy on the survey crew
Chorus
It was black fly, black fly, black fly everywhere
A-crawlin' in your whiskers, a-crawlin' in your hair
A-crawlin' in the soup, and a-crawlin' in the tea
Oh the devil take the black fly and leave me be!
Chorus
At last the job was over, Black Toby said,
we're through
With the Little Abitibi and the survey crew
T'was a wonderful experience and this I know
I'll never go again to North Ontar-i-o
Chorus

Bobinom' Saintom'

La premier fois que j'ai monté
c'est pour Jos Ray

Chorus:

Bobinom' saintom'

On va tu n'avoire, oui, du bon brandy?

C'est pour Jos Ray j'me suis t'engagé, hé

Chorus

C't'au Kippaway qu'il m'a shippé

Chorus

Si j'toffe un mois, je vais m'en aller

Chorus

J'ai toffé un mois moins un' journée

C'est pour Jos Ray

Et le for'man i' m'a clairé

C'est à Ottawa j'me suis t'en r'tourné

C'est à Ottawa House j'me suis saoulé

C'est dans la rue que j'ai tombé

Et le po'lic'man m'a ramassé

S'a rue Nicholas qu'il m'a t'amné

Un gros tas d'pierres il ma fait casser
pour un trottoir de neuf cent pieds

Chorus

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Danse, mon moine', danse!

Tu n'entends pas la danse

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Un capuchon je lui donnerais,

Un capuchon ju lui donnerais.

Chorus:

Danse, mon moine', danse!

Tu n'entends pas la danse

Tu n'entends pas mon moulin, lon la

Tu n'entends pas mon moulin marcher.

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Un ceinturon je lui donnerais.

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Un chapelet je lui donnerais.

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser!

Un froc de bur' je lui donnerais.

S'il n'avait faitvoeu pauvreté,

Bien d'autres chos' je lui donnerais.

Bobinom' Saintom' translation

The first time I went up (to the logging camp)
to work for Jos Ray

Chorus:

Bobinom' saintom'

So, anybody goin' to bring out some good brandy?

I was hired by Jos Ray

Chorus

They shipped me to Kippaway

Chorus

If I tough it out for a month, I'll leave

Chorus

I toughed it out for a month less a day

working for Jos Ray

and the foreman fired me.

I ended up back in Ottawa

I got soused in Ottawa House

I fell down in the street

and the cops picked me up

and took me to Nicholas Street jail.

They made me break a big sack of rocks
to make nine hundred feet of sidewalk.

Chorus

Ah! si mon moine voulait danser! translation

Dance monk, dance (may mean a spinning top)
you can't hear the dance

Oh, if my monk would dance

Oh, if my monk would dance

I would give him a cloak with a hood

I would give him a cloak with a hood

Chorus:

Dance monk, dance

you can't hear the dance

You can't hear my mill

You can't hear my mill running.

Oh, if my monk would dance

I would give him a belt for his cloak

Oh, if my monk would dance

I would give him a rosary

Oh, if my monk would dance

I would give him a homespun cloak

If he had not sworn an oath of poverty

I would give him lots of other things

Hymn to Freedom

When every heart joins every heart
and together yearns for liberty
that's when we'll be free.

When every hand joins every hand
and together molds our destiny
that's when we'll be free.

Any hour, any day
the time soon will come
when all will live in dignity
that's when we'll be free.

When everyone joins in our song
and together singing harmony,
that's when we'll be free.

Un Canadien Errant

Un canadien errant banni de ses foyers
parcourait en pleurant des pays étrangers.
Un jour, triste et pensif, assis au bord des flots.
Au courant fugitif il adresse ses mots.
"Si tu vois mon pays, mon pays malheureux,
va, dis à mes amis que je me soucieux d'eux".
O jours si pleins d'appas, vous êtes disparus
et ma patrie, hélas! Je ne la reverrai plus.
Non, mais en expirant, O mon cher Canada
mon regard languissant vers toi se portera.

O Siem

Fires burn in silence.
Hearts in anger bleed.
The wheel of change is turning
for the ones who truly need.
You see the walls come tumbling down.

Chorus:

O Siem, we are all family
O Siem, we're all the same
O Siem, the fires of freedom
Dance in the burning flame.

Siem, Osiyeya, all people rich and poor
Siem, Osiyeya, those who do and do not know
Siem, Osiyeya, take the hand of one close by
Siem, Osiyeya, of those who know because they try
and watch the walls come tumbling down.

Chorus

Siem, Osiyeya, all people of the world
Siem, Osiyeya, it's time to make a turn
Siem, Osiyeya, all chance to share your heart
Siem, Osiyeya, to make a brand new start
and watch the walls come tumbling down.

Un Canadien Errant translation

A wandering Canadian, banished from his home
passed weeping through many lands.
One day, sad and pensive, sitting by a river
he addressed these words to the fleeing current.
"If you see my country, my unhappy country,
Go and say to all my friends that I remember them.
Oh days, so full of charm, you have disappeared,
and my country, alas, I shall never see again.
No, but as I expire, O my dear Canada,
My dying glance will turn towards you".

Sailing of the Fleets

Now the spring is in the town.
Now the wind is in the tree.
And the wintered keels go down
to the calling of the sea.
Out from mooring, dock, and slip,
through the harbour bouys they glide
drawing windward 'til they dip
to the swirling of the tide.
One by one, and two by two,
down the channel turns they go.
Steering for the open blue
where the salty great airs blow.
Craft of many build and trim,
every stitch of sail unfurled,
'til they hang upon the rim
of the azure ocean world.
Who has ever, man or boy
seen the sea all flecked with gold,
and not longed to go with joy
forth upon adventures bold?
Now the spring is in the town.
Now the wind is in the tree.
And the wintered keels go down
to the calling of the sea.

She's Like the Swallow

She's like the swallow that flies so high.
She's like the river that never runs dry.
She's like the sunshine on the lee shore.
I love my love, and love is no more.
It's out of wild roses she made a bed
a stony pillow for her head.
She laid her down, no word she spoke
until this fair maid's heart was broke.

Put your hand in the hand

Chorus:
Put your hand in the hand of the man
who stilled the water
Put your hand in the hand of the man
who calmed the sea
Take a look at yourself
and you can look at others differently
By puttin' your hand in the hand of the man
from Galilee
Every time I look into the Holy Book I want to tremble
Or when I read about the part where the carpenter
cleared the temple
For the buyers and the sellers were no different fellas
than what I profess to be
And it causes me shame to know we're not the people
we should be.
Chorus

Citadel Hill

One day in December he'll never forget,
A charming young creature he happily met;
Her eyes shone like diamonds,
she was dressed up to kill,
She was slipping and tripping down Citadel Hill.
Chorus:
Sing fall-de-dol doodle-dum,
Fall-de-dol doodle-dum,
Fall-de-dol doodle-dum, Lidy-I-die.
He says, "My fair creature, you will me excuse!"
He offered his arm and she did not refuse;
Her arm locked in his
made him feel love's sweet thrill,
As they walked off together down Citadel Hill.
Chorus
The very next day to the church they did go,
The people all whispered, as well you must know;
Said the priest, "Will you wed?"
Says he, "That we will!"
So they kissed and were hitched upon Citadel Hill.
So now they are married and of children have three,
But he and the missus, they never agree;
The first she called Bridget, the second one Bill,
Says he, "The runt's name shall be Citadel Hill."
Chorus
Come all you young people, take warning from me,
If ever in need of a spouse you may be;
I'll tell you the place where you'll get your fill,
Just go slipping and tripping down Citadel Hill.
Chorus

My mama taught me how to pray before I reached
the age of seven
and when I'm down on my knees that's-a
when I'm close to heaven
Daddy lived his life with two kids and a wife,
and he did what he could do,
and he showed me enough of what it takes
to get you through.
Chorus

Omaa Biindig

Nibi, Nibi

Ningaabii anong

anong, anong

Giiwedinong

Waabanong

Zhawanong

Omaa biindig

Ningaabii anong

Nibi, Aki

Giiwedinong

Omaa bindig

Omaa Biinbdig translation

Water

West

North

East

South

Here, inside (of me)

West

Water, Earth

North

Here, inside