



American Favorite Ballads, Vol. 3 Lyrics

Pete Seeger SFW40152



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1. Gypsy Davy 5:03

Black Jack Davy come a -riding along
Singing so loud, and gaily,
He sang so loud the wildwoods rung;
He charmed the heart of a lady.

Chorus: Come a raddle-raddle lingo-lingo ling,
Raddle-raddle lingo, Davy (repeat)

How old are you, my pretty little miss?
How old are you, my honey?
She answered him with a tee-hee-hee,
I'll be sixteen next Sunday.
Come, go with me, my pretty little miss;
Go with me, my honey.
I'll take you across the deep blue sea;
You'll never want for money.

Chorus

Won't you pull off those high-heeled shoes
Made of Spanish leather?
Won't you put on some low-heeled shoes?
We'll ride off together.

Chorus

She soon pulled off those high-heeled shoes
Made of Spanish leather.
She put on those low-heeled shoes.
They rode off together.

Chorus

It was late at night when the Lord came home
Inquiring for his lady.
The servants said on every hand
“She's gone with the Gypsy Davy.”



Chorus

“Go saddle me my buckskin mare;
The gray is not so speedy.
I'll ride all day, and I'll ride all night
Till I overtake my lady.”

Chorus

He rode till he came to the deep, below.
The stream was deep and muddy.
The tears come a-trickling down his cheeks,
For there he spied his lady.

Chorus

“How can you leave your house and land?
How can you leave your baby?
How can you leave your husband dear,
To go with Gypsy Davy?”

Chorus

“Very well can I leave my house and land;
Very well can I leave my baby.
Much better can I leave my husband dear
To go with Gypsy Davy.”

Chorus

“I won't come back to you, my love;
I won't come back my husband.
No, I wouldn't give a kiss from David's lips
For all your land and money.”

“Last night I lay on a goose-feather bed
Beside my husband and baby.
Tonight I lay on the cold, cold ground
Beside the Gypsy Davy.”

She soon run through her gay clothing,
Her velvet shoes and stockings,
Her golden rings on her finger was gone,
And the gold plate off her bosom.

Chorus

“Once I had a house and land,

A feather-bed and money, but now I have come
to an old straw pad,
With nothing but Gypsy Davy.”

2. Deep Blue Sea 2:16

3. New River Train 3:00

Chorus: I'm riding on that New River Train. (2x)
It's the same old train that brought me here.
It's soon gonna carry me again.
Oh, darling, you can't love but one. (2x)
Oh, you can't love but one, and have any fun.
Darling, you can't love two. (2x)
You can't love two, and still to me be true.
Darling, you can't love three. (2x)
You can't love three, and still be true to me.
Darling, you can't love four. (2x)
You can't love four, and love me anymore.
Darling, you can't love five. (2x)
You can't love five: get your honey from my
beehive.
Darling you can't love six. (2x)
You can't love six, and do any tricks.
Oh, darling, you can't love seven. (2x)
You can't love seven and expect to go to heaven.
Darling, you can't love eight. (2x)
You can't love eight, and get through the Pearly
Gates.

Oh, darling you can't love nine. (2x)
You can't love nine, and still be mine.
Oh, riding on that New River Train, (2x)
The same old train that brought me here, soon
gonna carry me again.

4. St. James Hospital 2:58

5. E-ri-e Canal (The Erie Was Rising) 3:21

6. St. Louis Blues 2:22

I hate to see, that evening sun go down,
I hate to see, that evening sun go down,
Cause my baby, she done left this town.

Well, I'm feeling tomorrow, just like I feel
today,



Well, I'm feeling tomorrow, just like I feel
today,
Gonna pack my troubles, and make my getaway.

St. Louis woman, with all her diamond rings,
Took that man around, by her apron strings,
Weren't for powder, and for store bought hair,
That gal of mine could not have gone nowhere.

Got the St. Louis blues, just as blue as I can be,
That gal got a heart, like a rock cast in the sea,
Else she wouldn't have gone so far from me.

Oh, Mississippi river, long, deep, and wide,
I got to find my sweet gal on the other side.
Take me back to St. Louis, take me back to St.
Louis,
Take me back to St. Louis, where I can lose
those St. Louis blues.

7. Boll Weevil 3:56

8. The Girl I Left Behind 1:11

9. When First I Came to This Land 2:40

When I first came to this land, I was not a
wealthy man,
So I got myself a shack, and I did what I could.
And I called my shack Break My Back,
But the land was sweet and good, and I did what
I could.

2nd verse cow: Called my cow, no milk now.

3rd verse duck: Called my duck, out of luck.

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4th verse wife: Called my wife, run for your life.

5th verse son: Called my son, my work's done.

10. The Titanic 3:47

11. El-a-nyoy 1:46

Way down upon the Wabash, such land was
never known;

If Adam had passed over it, the soil he'd surely
own.
He'd think it was the garden he'd played in as a
boy,
And straight pronounce it Eden in the State of
Elanoy.

chorus:

Then move your fam'ly westward,
Good health you will enjoy,
And rise to wealth and honor in
The state of Elanoy.

'Twas here the queen of Sheba came, with
Solomon of old.
With bullock's load of spices, pomegranates and
fine gold;
And when she saw this lovely land her heart was
filled with joy
Straightway she said "I'd like to be a queen in
Elanoy."

She's bounded by the Wabash, the Ohio and the
Lakes.

She's crawfish in the swampy lands, the milk-
sick and the shakes.

But these are slight diversions and take not from
the joy

Of living in this garden land, the state of Elanoy.

Away up in the northward, right on the
borderline
A great commercial city, Chicago, you will find.
Her men are all like Abelard, her women like
Heloise
All honest virtuous people, for they live in
Elanoy.

Last chorus:

Then move your family westward,
Bring all your girls and boys
And cross at Shawnee Ferry to
The State of Elanoy.

12. Lady of Carlisle 3:23

Down in Carlisle there lived a lady.
Being both beautiful and gay,
She was determined to live a lady;
No man on earth could her betray,
Unless it were a man of honor,
A man of honor and high degree.



Then there approached two loving soldiers
This fair lady for to see,
One being a brave lieutenant,
A brave lieutenant and a man of war,
The other being a brave sea-captain,
Captain of the ship that's come from far.

Then up spoke this fair young lady,
"I can be but one man's bride;
If you will return tomorrow morning,
On this case we will decide."

She ordered her a span of horses,
A span of horses at her command,
And they rode down the hill together,
Till they came to the lions' den.

And there they stopped and there they halted,
While the two stood gazing around;
And for the space of a half an hour,
This young lady lies speechless on the ground.

Then after a while she did recover:
She throw'd her fan to the lion's den;
Said, "Which of you to gain a lady
Will return my fan again?"

Then up spoke the brave lieutenant,
In a voice both loud and high,
"I know I am a dear lover of women,
But I will not risk my life for love."
Then up spoke the brave sea-captain,
In a voice both loud and clear,
"I know I am a dear lover of women;
I will return your fan or die."

Then into the lions' den he boldly entered,
The lions being both wild and fierce;
He walked around and in among them,
Then returned her fan again.

And when she saw her true love a-coming,
Seeing no harm had come to him,
She throw'd her head upon his bosom,
Saying, "Here's the prize that you have won."

13. My Good Man 2:39

Well, the other night when I got home, drunk as
I could be,
I spied a horse in the stable where my horse
ought to be.

I says to my wife, my pretty little wife, explain
this thing to me,
What's this horse doing in the stable, where my
horse ought to be.

You blind fool, you drunken old fool, can't you
never see,
That's nothing but an old milk cow, my granny
gave to me.

I traveled this wide world over, ten thousand
miles or more,
And a saddle on a milk cow's back, I never did
see before.

The second night, I got home, drunk as I could
be,
I spied a hat on the hat rack, where my hat ought
to be.

I says to my wife, my pretty little wife, explain
this thing to me,
What's this hat doing here on the hatrack where
my hat ought to be.

You blind fool, you drunken old fool, can't you
never see,
That's nothing but an old chamber pot my
granny gave to me.

I've traveled this wide world over, ten thousand
miles or more,
And a J. B. Stetson chamber pot, I never did see
before.

I got home the third night, drunk as I could be,
I spied some pants upon the chair where my
pants ought to be.

I says to my wife, my pretty little wife, explain
this thing to me,
What's these pants doing here upon the chair
where my pants ought to be.



You blind fool, you drunken old fool, can't you
never see,
That's nothing but an old dish rag, my granny
gave to me.

I've traveled this wide world over, ten thousand
miles or more,
And zippers on a dishrag I never did see before.

I got home the fourth night, drunk as I could be,
I spied a head on the pillow, where my head
ought to be.
I says to my wife, my pretty little wife, explain
this thing to me,
What's this head doing here on the pillow, where
my head ought to be.

You blind fool, you drunken fool, can't you
plainly see,
That's nothing but an old cabbage head, my
granny gave to me.
I've traveled this wide world over, ten thousand
miles or more,
And a mustache on a cabbage head I never did
see before.

Well, the fifth night, I got home, drunk as I
could...

- 14. Golden Vanity 3:56**
- 15. Ain't it a Shame 1:47**
- 16. Swanee River 3:01**

Way down upon the Swanee River, far, far
away,
There's where my heart is turning ever,
That's where the old folks stay.

All the world is sad and dreary,
Everywhere I roam,

Old brother, how my heart grows weary,
Far from the old folks at home.

All up and down the whole creation,
Sadly I roam,
Still longing for the old plantation,

And for the old folks at home.

When will I see the bees a'humming,
All round the comb,
When will I hear the banjos strumming
Down in my good old home.

- 17. Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child 4:31**
- 18. The Boys from County Mayo (Shamrock) 2:21**
- 19. No Irish Need Apply 1:56**
- 20. Paddy Works on the Railroad 2:26**
- 21. Arkansas Traveler 2:39**
- 22. When I Was Single 1:17**
- 23. Wond'rous Love 1:37**
- 24. Ground Hog 3:47**
- 25. Old Blue 2:18**
- 26. She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain 1:51**
- 27. Erie Canal (My Gal Sal) 2:38**