

MATYAS SEIBER



TWELVE
RUSSIAN
FOLKSONGS
for children

WORKERS MUSIC ASSOCIATION

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DOH is F
Four-pulse.

THE ROAD IS BRIGHT ("MOLODEJNA")
(Song from the film "Volga Volga")

Allegretto

mf s, s, d d : d d d d : t, d r : t, s, : s, s, s,

1. Oh the road is bright before us & the sky a - - bove; And the

mf s, s, d d : d d d d : t, d r : t, s, : s, s, s,

Allegretto 2. So we raise our voices higher till the moun-tains ring And the

mf (leggiero)

f f : f f f : m, f s : m d : d d l l : l l l : s f

flowers in the meadows wave to greet our love. Do you ask how much I love you? As the

f r : r r r r : d r m : d s, : d d f f : f f f : m r

birds in every valley cel - e - brate the spring. And so happy is our chorus For the

s s : s s s s : f m f m : r d t, s, : l, s, r : d d : d s

sky is high a-bove you, As the sea is wide and deep, That's how I love my love. La

m m : m m m m : r d r d : t, l, s, s, : f e, f, f : m, m, d s

road is bright before us, It's the coming of the morning that we proud-ly sing. La

All folksongs are not made up by peasants. Sometimes a well-known composer makes up a song which becomes so popular and so widespread that it comes to be considered as a folksong. This happened with "The road is bright" which the Soviet composer Dunayevsky wrote for a musical film. This song has all the liveliness of a young people looking forward to a

(Key Bb) bright future. Perhaps that is why it is so popular. 1 (Key C)

First system of the musical score. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'la la, la la la, la la la, la'. The middle staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'la la, la la la, la la la, la'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with the word 'crescendo' written below it.

Second system of the musical score. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'la la. Do you ask how much I love you? As the sky is high a-bove you, As the'. The middle staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'la la. And so hap-py is our chorus For the road is bright before us, It's the'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with the word 'piu f.' written below it.

Third system of the musical score. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'sea is wide and deep, That's how I love my love! la love my love!'. The middle staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'coming of the morning that we proudly sing. la proudly sing'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. The system is divided into two parts: '1st time' and '2nd time'.

LAH is E

BIRDS IN THE ORCHARD

(Second part ad lib)

Two-pulse
Allegretto

Folksong from Western Belorussia

1. :s. :s. d :s. d .d :r .r m :- | 1. .l. :d .r m :-r

Up in the or-ward stood a lit-tle tree, Fin-est lot of pears that

mf

marc.

d .d :t. t. l. :- | 1. :s. :s. d :s. d .d :r .r m :-

you did ev-er see. (2) When they were ripe and read-y for to fall,

(Fine)

1. .l. :d .r m :-r | d .d :t. t. l. :-

For - ty lit - tle birds they came and ate them all.

Verse 3: High in the plum tree sat a little dove,
Made a little nest to please her little love.

Verse 4: Two of her young ones made a sad mistake;
Flew out of the tree and flew into the lake.

Verse 5: "Coo", said the cuckoo, "Cuckoo" said she,
Flying up above the little apple tree.

LAH is C
Two-pulse.

TARTAR SONG
Folksong from the Kazan region.

(Second part optional)

Allegretto

1 1 :s,f .s,l f .f :f :- 1 .l :m,r .m,f r .r :r

Never did our river seem Quite so cool and clear and green:

Allegretto (leggiero)

(bis)

s .s :s .m d .d :d .r m ,r .m ,s :m .r ,d l .l :l

Nev-er in the fields till now wheat and rye so golden grow.

Did

s .s :s .m d .d :d .r m ,r .m ,s :m .r ,d l .l :l *DS.*

Nev-er in the fields till now Did wheat and rye so golden grow.

DS.

Verse 2: Never was our life so bright,
Never were more stars at night.
In our village all is gay
Just like a summer holiday.

Verse 3: Like a mill-dam in the stream,
Keeping back the rolling tide,
So shall we a bulwark stand
By our great leader Stalin's side.

The Tartars in Russia are descendants of the old Mongol conquerors of the Middle Ages. Nowadays they mostly live in the Crimea and around Kazan. To this day their songs still show their Asiatic origin. Once they were the fiercest and most brutal fighters in the world. Now they are a loyal, peaceful and industrious folk. But their fine fighting record in this war shows they have lost none of their old bravery.

LAH is E
Two-pulse

GREY GOOSE

(second part optional)

Folk song from Polotsky region, Western Belorussia.

Brightly

(All)
Grey goose, grey goose, fly down the river. Grey goose, grey goose, fly a-

Brightly

way. Take this letter o - ver the mountain Where my sweetheart weeps all day.

Verse 2: (Boys) "Do not weep, my dear Katerina,
For a shepherd I would be.
Three and thirty flocks I am tending.
Always I'll remember thee."

Verse 3: (All) Grey goose, grey goose, fly up the river:
Grey goose, grey goose, fly away.
Take this letter over the mountain,
Till you find my sweetheart gay.

Verse 4: (Girls) "This I wish you, Vanya my darling,
Apples grow where you shall tread,
And your path be strewn with roses
Till the day that you forget."

Verse 5: (All) Grey goose, grey goose, fly from the river:
Grey goose, grey goose, fly away.
Take this letter over the mountain
Where my sweetheart thinks of me.

This is a lively dance song from Western Belorussia. Songs like this are great favourites with the girls and women of the collective farms, who sing them and clap in time to the melody, to encourage the dancers.

LAH is D
Four-pulse.

PARTISAN SONG
(Song from the Civil War 1918-1920)

(second part optional)

Marciale, moderato. *mf* d :l, d :m.r d.t.:l, :s.s, d :d r:s.f m :- :l,l.

In the hills and in the val-leys, In the cities over the snows, To de-

Marciale, moderato. *mf ritmico*

l :-s f :m f :f :m.f s :-f m :r l, :- -:l,l, l :-s f :m

fend their lovely country Gallant part-i-sans a - rose. To de-fend their lovely

piu f

f :f :m.f Verses 1-3. s :-f m :r l, :- -:l,t, Last verse s :-f m :t l, :- -:

country Gallant part-i-sans a - rose. When they forged a fine, new world.

Verses 1-3 Last verse. *Rit.*

Verse 2: When they crossed the raging river,
In the wind the pine-boughs danced;
And their foe fled through the valleys
As the partisans advanced.

Verse 3: They have chased away the tyrant;
They have set their country free;
And they ended their campaigning
By the margin of the sea.

Verse 4: Then they stood upon the mountain
With their crimson flag unfurled.
In the heat of bitter fighting
They have forged a fine, new world.

This is one of the most famous songs in the world. It began as the song of the partisan fighters in Siberia, during the bitter Civil War of 1918-1920. Since then it has been used as a political song all over Europe and America and in China. In this war the Yugoslav partisans of Marshal Tito have adopted it as their own unofficial anthem.

LAH is F
Four-pulse

FAR EASTERN SONG
(Second part optional)
Folksong from Khabarovsk region, Eastern Siberia.

Moderato

In the val-ley, watch - ing cattle, There I heard the

sound of bat-tle. And I found a four-leaf clo-ver Hid-ing in the

yellow grass. And I found a four-leaf clo-ver Hid - ing in the yellow grass

mp

piu p

The musical score is written for voice and piano. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The score consists of three systems. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The piano part features chords and single notes, with dynamics like 'mp' and 'piu p' indicated. The lyrics are: 'In the val-ley, watch - ing cattle, There I heard the sound of bat-tle. And I found a four-leaf clo-ver Hid-ing in the yellow grass. And I found a four-leaf clo-ver Hid - ing in the yellow grass'.

Verse 2: Tell me, tell me, four-leaf clover,
If the war will soon be over?
Then I'll run to meet my father
Riding down the mountain pass.

Verse 3: Little pigeon by the fountain,
Fly across the snowy mountain,
Take this ribbon to my father,
Tell him that it comes from me.

Verse 4: Father, father brave and clever,
Drive the foe across the river.
Turn about and come back quickly,
And so happy we shall be.

This is a song of the Khor people, a nomad race of Mongolian origin, living in Eastern Siberia, near the Pacific coast. Their songs are some of the most beautiful of all Oriental folksongs.

LAH is D
Two-pulse.

MAY DAY MORNING
Folksong from Western Belorussia.

Second part optional

Allegretto

mf 1. Bright-ly dawns our hol-i-day. All the lads have
2. All a-round the wil-low tree Birds are sing - ing

Allegretto.

made their way Thro'the fields & meadows gay, Earl - y in the morn-ing.
loud and free. Seven girls do wait for me As the day is dawn-ing.

Slower Rit..... a tempo

Thro'the fields & meadows gay, Earl-y in the morning.
Seven girls do wait for me As the day is dawning.

Slower Rit..... a tempo

3. Sweetly sings the linnet there;
Sweetly flow'rs the lilac fair.
Neither of them can compare
With my Marianna.
4. Dance along, you maidens gay;
Care not what the lads may say!
Bugles, blow! and fiddles, play!
On this happy May Day!

May Day was always a day for festivals and celebrations, and after the Russian Revolution it became a political holiday as well as a day on which to celebrate the coming of spring. Nowadays, on May Day, the farm workers parade with bands and banners and a good time is had by all, - and that is the scene this song describes.

Andantino

In the meadow stood a big birch tree. In the meadow stood a leafy birch tree.

Andantino

La le lu, in the mea-dow: la le lu, in the mea-dow.

- Verse 2: Who will cut the boughs of the birch tree?
Who will cut the branches of the birch tree? (La le lu, etc).
- Verse 3: I will cut the boughs of the birch tree.
I will cut the branches of the birch tree. (La le lu, etc)
- Verse 4: I will make two flutes of the branches;
I will make two whistles of the branches. (La le lu, etc)
- Verse 5: Ev'rybody wake from your slumber,
Ev'rybody rouse up from your slumber! (La le lu, etc)
- Verse 6: Take my hand and dance to the harvest!
We will all go singing to the harvest! (La le lu, etc).

This is one of the most famous of all Russian songs. Many great composers have made use of it in their music and Tchaikovsky used the tune in one of his most dramatic symphonies.

DOH is F

YOUNG PARTISANS' MARCH

Three-part

Two-pulse.

(Second and third parts optional)

ALLEGRO MARCATO

Modern war song.

(Unis)

Now a - rise, my country's lads and lasses! Now a-wake, a-wake my na-tive

land! Hey, look out, lads! Hear us sing our marching song! Hey, look out, lads! Singing

7-3. Last.

as we march a-long! long

Last time

Verse 2: Boys and girls, take up your shining rifles,
For today the foe is close at hand!
Hey, look out (etc.)

Verse 3: Hear the guns like thunder in the forest.
Now the storm of battle has begun.
Hey, look out (etc.)

Verse 4: We will fire a bullet for our homeland.
We will fight until the war is won!
Hey, look out (etc.)

oooooooooooooooooooo

Many of the partisan bands who are fighting the Germans in the forests of Russia include brave boys and girls of ten years old and younger. Some of these children have won high military awards for their bravery. This march was composed in the first few weeks after the invasion of the Soviet Union by Germany in June 1941 (by the composer Akulenko) and it became a popular success immediately. When you come to sing this lively tune you will soon see why.

THE YOUNG AIRMAN
Tune from the Moscow region.

Two-part

MODERATO

The musical score is written for a two-part vocal setting and piano accompaniment. It is in 2/4 time and the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The tempo is marked 'MODERATO'. The score consists of two systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The second system contains the next two lines of the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment is written for a grand piano with a treble and bass clef. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score ends with a double bar line and the marking 'D.C.' (Da Capo).

1 .l :s .s f .m ,r :m .d 1 .l :s .s f .m ,r :m .d
Air-man, air-man, take me with you! Air-man, air-man, take me with you!

f :m r .s :d .m f :m r .s :d
Hm Hm

MODERATO
p *mf*

r :f s f :m .d s :d t , r :d
Hm Hm

t , .t :l .l s , .l , t :d t , .t :l .l s , .l , t :d
Up to-wards the Milk - y Way, Half a mil-lion miles a - way.

p D.C.

Verse 2: I'll be brave and I'll not falter,
Even though the weather alter.
Rain and hail and frost and snow,
Through them all I'd gladly go

Verse 3: Like a lovely bird in motion
I will fly across the ocean.
In the quiet starry night
All the hills and dales are bright.

Verse 4: In an aeroplane I'm flying,
In an aeroplane I'm flying;
When I reach the sun and moon
I will turn and come back soon.

The melody of this song belongs to a long comic ballad wellknown among the peasants in the country districts around Moscow. Here we have done what is often done in the Soviet Union, taken a poem and fitted it to a folk tune. The words, in this case, are after a poem by the great poet of the Russian Revolution, Mayakovsky, who wrote many delightful verses for children.

LAH is F
Six-pulse.

LAMBS ON THE MOUNTAINS

Two-part

Cossack song from the Lower Don.-

(For girls)

Andante espressivo

1. There's lambs up - on the mountains green And strawb'ries by the sea. And
2. They say that love is like the sun, So burning and so true. But

1. There's lambs up-on the hills and strawb'ries by the sea.-
2. They say love's like the sun, So burning and so true.

yet my heart is not at rest; My love has gone from me. And
ah, his love is like the moon, That ev - 'ry month is new. But,

And yet my heart is sad; My love has gone from me.
His love is like the moon, That ev - 'ry month is new.

yet my heart is not at rest; My love has gone from me. (2) They
ah, his love is like the moon, That ev - 'ry month is new. (3) So

And yet my heart is sad; My love has gone from me.
His love is like the moon, That ev - 'ry month is new.

FINE

3. So I will wear my flow'ry dress,
(I'll wear my flow'ry dress)
And I'll comb out my hair.
And I will go into the hills
(And go into the hills)
To find my darling there.

4. For feathered beds are soft with down,
(For beds are soft with down)
And painted rooms are fine.
But just to be beside my love
(To be beside my love)
I'd leave them all behind.

LAH is E
Three-pulse.

THE HORSEHERD BOY

Three-part

Cossack Song.

(First voice) 1. t d :l, :d r d :d :d f :m :l, r :- :m .f

1. Ah, Cossack, little Cossack And where have you been? I've been
2. And where have the geese gone? In long reeds they hide. But the

(Second voice) : :l, t, d :l, :l, l. :d :l, l. s, :f, :

1. Little Cossack And where have you been?
2. And where have the geese gone! They hide.

(Third voice) : :l, t, d :l, :s, f, m, r, :

1. Ah where have you been?
2. And where do they hide?

Andante moderato.

m r :s :t, l, t, :d :t, d t, :l, :s, l, :- :l, t

watch - ing the hors - es in our mead - ow green. And
wo - - men will catch them in all their fine pride. And

d :- :t, l, s, f, :m, .f, :s, r, :f, :s, l, :- :

I've been watching hors - es in our mead - ow green.
But the women catch them in all their fine pride.

l. :- :s, f, m, r, :d, r, :m, s, :r, :m, l, :- :

I've been watching hors - es in our mead - ow green.
But the women catch them in all their fine pride.

NOTE.- This song may be sung in three parts unaccompanied if desired.

where are the hors-es That stood by the wall? They've gone to the
 where are the wo - men? All lone-ly they mourn For the soldiers who

And where are the hors - es by the wall? Gone to the
 And where are the wo - men? They mourn For the brave

And where are the horses? Gone to the
 All lone - ly they mourn For the brave

	First	Second
wa - - ter where wild geese do call. And	1. - : l. t. l. :-	l. :-
rode through the tall yel-low corn.	1. :- s. f. s. il. s. l. :-	l. :-
wa - - ter where wild geese do call.	1. :- s. f. s. il. s. l. :-	l. :-
sol - diers who rode through the corn.	1. :- s. f. s. il. s. l. :-	l. :-
wa - - ter where wild geese do call.	1. :- s. f. s. il. s. l. :-	l. :-
sol - diers who rode through the corn.	1. :- s. f. s. il. s. l. :-	l. :-



The Cossacks were always a great fighting people and many of their songs are sad songs like this, songs of men gone off to war and women who are left behind. The Cossacks are a great singing people, too, and their tunes are specially suited to the rich harmonies they love to use.

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