

folkways records fc 7501

SONGS TO GROW ON

by Woody GUTHRIE

CONTENTS:

1 LP
1 program notes (7 p.)

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sung by jack elliot

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MUSIC LP

THIS RECORDING
IS DEDICATED
TO THE MEMORY
OF
CATHY ANN
"STACKABONES"
GUTHRIE

Woody Guthrie's
SONGS TO GROW
Sung by Jack Elliott

FC 7501

JIG ALONG HOME
CAR SONG
SWIM SWIM
DON'T YOU PUSH ME DOWN
WHY OH WHY
PUT YOUR FINGER IN THE
WAKE UP
PRETTY AND SHINY-OH
CLEAN-O
PICK IT UP
DANCE AROUND
HOW DJA DO
MY LITTLE SEED
BUILD A HOUSE
NEEDLE SONG
WE ALL WORK TOGETHER



ILLUSTRATED NOTES
INSIDE COVER

ORIGINAL DRAWINGS
BY WOODY GUTHRIE

DESIGN BY MOSES ASC

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WOODY GUTHRIE'S

ONGS TO GROW ON

SUNG BY JACK ELLIOTT

Cathy Ann—we call her Miss Stackabones—heard every one of these songs before Moe Asch melted them down onto his records.

I really did try to slant these songs at all of you citizens from four to six, but I spilled over a little on every side, because all of us sang and danced these songs and all of us got about the same kick out of them.

Stackabones likes her songs and stories best of all when her mommy and her pappy sing, talk, listen, and dance with her. She joins in lots quicker and louder and freer when all of us lay down our books, papers, our knitting, twitting and our heavy spirits, and all get going together on our story, our song, or dance.

We beat on books, boxes, on tin cans and floors. We rattle shakers, spoons and bells, and we jump all around in a long trot, a rig-a-jig-jig, a crazy lope, gallop or a wild jump. We settle down then and tell some real quiet story in a whisper. We make up some new story if we forget our old ones.

I've been making up songs and playing and singing them now for twenty years and Cathy at nearly four years can out-rhyme, out-play me, out-sing me any old day.

Now I don't want to see you use my songs to divide nor split your family all apart. I mean, don't just buy these records and take them home so your kids can play around with them while you go off and do something else. I want to see you join right in, do what your kids do. Let your kids teach you how to play and how to act these songs out. (These and a thousand other songs.) Get your whole family into the fun. Get papa. Get mama. Get brother. Get sister. Get aunty. Get uncle. Get grandma. Grampa. The friends. The neighbors. Everybody. But mostly get your own self into it.

Please, please, please, don't read nor sing my songs like no lesson book, like no text for today. But, let them be a little key to sort of unlock and let down all of your old bars.

Watch the kids. Do like they do. Act like they act. Yell like they yell. Dance the way you see them dance. Sing like they sing. Work and rest the way the kids do.

You'll be healthier. You'll feel wealthier. You'll talk wiser. You'll go higher, do better and live longer here amongst us, if you'll just only jump in here and swim around in these songs and do like the kids do.

I don't want the kids to be grownup. I want to see the grown folks be kids.

—WOODY GUTHRIE

Woody Guthrie's
SONGS TO GROW ON
 sung by Jack Elliot

SIDE I

FC7501A

Band 1: JIG ALONG HOME
 Band 2: CAR SONG
 Band 3: SWIM SWIM
 Band 4: DON'T YOU PUSH ME DOWN
 Band 5: WHY OH WHY
 Band 6: PUT YOUR FINGER IN THE AIR
 Band 7: WAKE UP

SIDE II

FC7501B

Band 1: PRETTY AND SHINY-OH
 Band 2: CLEAN-O
 Band 3: PICK IT UP
 Band 4: DANCE AROUND
 Band 5: HOW DJA DO
 Band 6: MY LITTLE SEED
 Band 7: BUILD A HOUSE
 Band 8: NEEDLE SONG
 Band 9: WE ALL WORK TOGETHER



JACK ELLIOTT

Cathy caught on to every song here when she heard us play it for her the first time. The second time, Miss Stackabones sang the whole chorus, or the whole song, word for word, move for move, and clap for clap, right along with her mama and me.

NEEDIE SING: She danced around on some dry leaves and said, "Zing zing zing zing zing zing. Mama, mama, mama, mama, mama, mama, mama. Daddy when is mommy coming home?"

- Woody Guthrie

These are the words Cathy said about each one of our work songs to grow on:

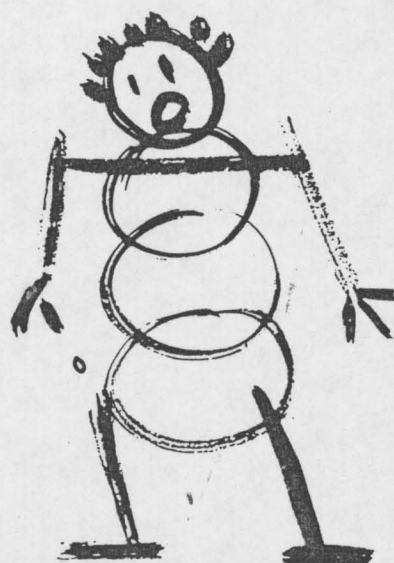
PICK IT UP: I've got an uncle Hymie and he sings a song like that and he says, I drop my toe, and my hand, and my everything, and he's goofy.

BUILD MY HOUSE: My uncle Hymie sings, Kling Klang Klammer with my klammer, klingo klango klutting with my klaw. He's funny.

ALL WORK TOGETHER: Mama, what do I do when I giggle and I wiggle?

PLANT MY LITTLE SEED: Daddy, which tree did the little baby grow up in?

PRETTY AND SHINY-O: She danced and acted this one out several times, usually making up most of her own words, then she said, "My eyes are pretty and shiny because I brushed my teeth so nice and clean."



W. G.

JIG ALONG

CHORUS:

Jig, jig-a jig, jig, jig along home,
Jig, jig-a jig, jig, jig along home,
Jig, jig-a jig, jig, jig along home,
Jig, jig-a jig, jig, jig along home.



VERSE 1

Well, I went to the dance and the animals come;
Jaybird danced with horseshoes on.
Grasshopper danced till he fell to the floor,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.

CHORUS:

VERSE 2

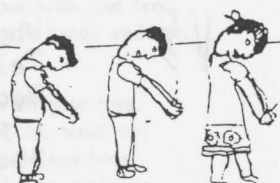
Well, the fish warmed up the fishing reel;
Lobster danced on the peacock's tail.
Baboon danced with the rising moon,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.



CHORUS:

VERSE 3

And the rooster cut his weevily wheat,
The catfish tromped the cuckoo's feet.
The ostrich stomped with the kangaroo,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.



CHORUS:

VERSE 4

And the mama rat took off her hat;
Shook the house with the old tom cat.
The alligator beat his tail on the drum,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.

CHORUS:

VERSE 5

The boards did rattle and the house did shake,
The clouds they laughed and the world did quake.
New moon rattled some silver spoons,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.

CHORUS:

VERSE 6

The nails flew loose and the floor broke down,
Everybody danced around and around.
The house come down and the crowd went home,
Jig along, jig along, jig along home.



CLIMB, CLIMB AROUND ON THE FRONT SEAT,
SPREE, I SPRADLE ON THE BACK SEAT;
TURN MY KEY, STEP ON THE STARTER,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

THE ENGINE IT GOES BRRRR, BRRRR,
THE ENGINE IT GOES BRRRR, BRRRR,
FRONT SEAT BACK SEAT, BOYS AND GIRLS,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

TREES AND HOUSES WALK ALONG,
GREAT BIG BUILDINGS WALK ALONG;
TRUCK AND CAR AND A GARBAGE CAN,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

WELL, SHIPS AND LITTLE BOATS CHUG
ALONG,
SHIPS AND LITTLE BOATS CHUG ALONG,
BRRRR, BRRRR, BRRRR, BRRRR,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

I'M GOING TO ZOOM YOU HOME AGAIN,
I'M GOING TO ZOOM YOU HOME AGAIN,
BRRRR, BRRRR ROLL-Y HOME,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

I'M GOING TO LET YOU BLOW THE HORN,
I'M GOING TO LET YOU BLOW THE HORN,
RRRRR, RRRRR, RRRRR, RRRRR,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.

SWIMMY SWIM

"I'll bet I can swim more
funny ways than you."

I LIKE TO SWIM IN MY WATER,
I LIKE TO SWIM IN MY WATER,
WATER WATER AND WATER,
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY I SWIM.

chorus: SWIM SWIM SWIMMY
I SWIM AND I SWIM
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY
I SWIM AND I SWIM
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY
I SWIM AND I SWIM
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY
I SWIM.

I LIKE TO KICK IN MY WATER,
I LIKE TO KICK IN MY WATER,
WATER WATER AND WATER,
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY I SWIM.

I LIKE TO SPLASH IN MY WATER,
I LIKE TO SPLASH IN MY WATER,
WATER WATER AND WATER,
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY I SWIM.

I LIKE TO FLOAT IN MY WATER,
I LIKE TO FLOAT IN MY WATER,
WATER WATER AND WATER,
SWIM SWIM SWIMMY I SWIM.

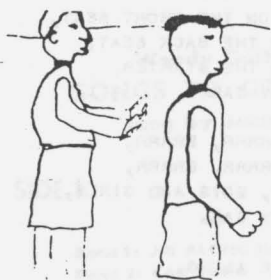
CAR SONG

TAKE ME RIDING IN THE CAR, CAR
TAKE ME RIDING IN THE CAR, CAR;
TAKE YOU RIDING IN THE CAR, CAR
TAKE YOU RIDING IN THE CAR.

CLICK, CLACK, OPEN UP THE DOOR GIRLS,
CLICK, CLACK, OPEN UP THE DOOR BOYS,
FRONT DOOR, BACK DOOR, CLICKETY, CLACK,
TAKE YOU RIDING IN MY CAR.



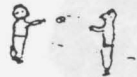
W.G.



DON'T YOU PUSH ME DOWN

CHORUS:

Don't you push me, push me, push me;
Don't you push me down.
Don't you push me, push me, push me;
Don't you push me down.



VERSE 1

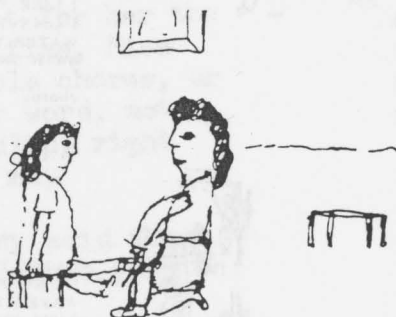
Well, you can play with me
And you can hold my hand,
And you can comb my hair
And you can ride my horse.
You can roll my ball
And ride my truck around
You can even laugh at me
But don't you push me down.



CHORUS:

VERSE 2

You can play with me,
You can dress my doll,
You can ride my scooter
And you can ride my skates.
You can take my wagon
And roll it all around,
You can even get mad at me
But don't you push me down.



CHORUS:

VERSE 3

You can play with me,
We can play all day;
You can use my dishes
If you'll put them away.
You can feed me apples
And oranges and plums.
You can even wash my face
But don't you push me down.

CHORUS:



PUT YOUR FINGER IN THE AIR

Put your finger in the air, in the air,
Put your finger in the air, in the air,
Put your finger in the air,
Put your finger in the air,
Put your finger in the air, in the air.

Put your finger on your head, on your head,
Put your finger on your head, on your head,
Put your finger on your head—
Tell me is it green or red?
Put your finger on your head, on your head.

Put your finger on your nose, on your nose,
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose,
Put your finger on your nose
And feel the cold wind blow.
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose.

WHY OH WHY OH WHY

Why can't a dish break a hammer?
Why oh why oh why?
Because a hammer's got a hard head
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Why oh why oh why and a why
And a tell me why oh why?
Because, because, because, because,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Why can't a bird eat an elephant?
Tell me why and a why?
Because an elephant's got a pretty
hard skin,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Why can't a mouse eat a street-car?
Tell me why and a why?
Because a mouse's stomach was never
big enough to hold a street-car,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Why does a cow drink water?
Tell me why oh why.
Because a cow gets thirsty just like
you or me or anybody else,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Why don't you answer my questions?
Tell me why and a why?
Because I don't know the answers,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye,
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe.
Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe.
Put your finger on your shoe
And leave it a day or two.
Put your finger on your shoe, on your shoe.

Put your finger on your finger, on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger, on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger,
On your finger, on your finger,
Put your finger on your finger, on your finger

Put your finger on your chin, on your chin,
Put your finger on your chin, on your chin,
Put your finger on your chin;
That is where the food slips in.
Put your finger on your chin, on your chin.

Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek,
Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek,
Put your finger on your cheek
And leave it about a week.
Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek.

WAKE UP

Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes;
Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Open eyes, open eyes, open eyes, open eyes.

Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms;
Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
Stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms, stretch arms.

Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet;
Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet;
Wake up, open eyes and stretch your arms,
Stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet, stretch feet.

Stretch hands and toes and hands
And hands and toes and hands and toes;
Wake up and stretch your arms and feet,
Stretch hands and toes and hands and toes.

Wake up and play with all your toys;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up;
And play with all the girls and boys;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up,
Wake up and see the sun shine in;
And listen to all the things outside;
Wake up, wake up, wake up, wake up.

CLEAN-O

Mama, oh, mama, come wash my face,
Wash my face, come wash my face,
Mama, oh, mama, come wash my face
And make me nice and clean-o.

Daddy, oh, daddy, come fix my shoe,
Fix my shoe, come fix my shoe.
Daddy, oh, daddy, come fix my shoe
And polish it nice and clean-o.

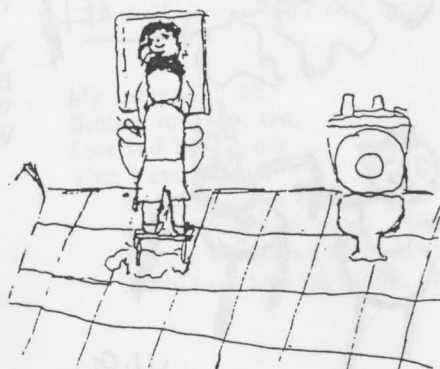
Sister, oh, sister, come bathe my back,
Bathe my back, come bathe my back.
Sister, oh, sister, come bathe my back
And make it nice and clean-o.

Clean, oh, clean, yes, clean, oh, clean.
Clean, oh, clean, yes, clean, oh, clean.
Scrubbity, scrubbity, rubby dub dubbity
And make me nice and clean-o.

Brother, oh, brother, come wash my hair,
Wash my hair, come wash my hair.
Brother, oh, brother, come wash my hair
And make it nice and clean-o.

Granny, oh, granny, come wash my feet,
Wash my feet and wash my feet.
Granny, oh, granny, come wash my feet
And make them nice and clean-o.

Sweetie, on, sweetie, come smell of me now,
Smell of me now, come smell of me now.
Sweetie, oh, sweetie, come smell of me now.
Don't I smell nice and clean-o.



PICK IT UP

I drop my thumb.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my thumb.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my thumb.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And put it back with my fingers.

Chorus:

Pick pick pick it
Pick it up
Pick it up
Pick pick pick it
Pick it up
Pick it up
Pick pick pick it
Pick it up
Pick it up
Picka picka picka
Pick it up
Pick it up

I drop my toys.
Pick them up. Pick it up.
I drop my toys.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my toys.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And put put them in their places.

I drop my candy.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my candy.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my candy.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And throw it away in the garbage.

I drop my apple.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my apple.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my apple.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And wash it clean in the water.

I drop my dolly.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my dolly.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my dolly.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And lay it back in the cradle.

I drop my shoe.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my shoe.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my shoe.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And put it with my other shoe.

I drop my head.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my head.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
I drop my head.
Pick it up. Pick it up.
And put it back on my shoulders.

DANCE AROUND

Dance around and around
And around and around
And around and around and around.

Dance around and around
And around and around
And around and around and around.

Hold up your hands,
Your hands, your hands;
Hold up your hands, your hands.

Hold up your hands,
Your hands, your hands;
Hold up your hands, your hands.

Walk on your toes,
Your toes, your toes;
Walk on your toes, your toes.

Walk on your toes,
Your toes, your toes;
Walk on your toes, your toes.

Now march and march
And march and march,
March and march and march.

Now march and march
And march and march,
March on your toes and march.

Now take big steps,
Big steps, big steps,
Now take big steps, big steps.

Hold up your hands
And take big steps
And take big steps, big steps.

HOWDJA DO

You stick out your little hand
At every woman, kid and man,
And you wave it up and down,
Howdja do, howdja do?
And you wave it up and down,
Howdja do?

Howdja doosle doodle doochie
Howdja howdja heedjee hodjee
Howdja hodja heedjee hodjee
Howdja do, howdja do?
Howdja hodjie heedjee hodjee
Howdja do.

On my sidewalk in my street,
Everybody that I meet,
Well ya wave it up and down,
Howdja do, howdja do?
Howdja do hoo doocie doocie
Howdja do?

I feel glad when you feel good
Braggin' up my neighborhood
With your hidjee heedjee hodjee
Howdja do, howdja do?
Howdja hodjee heedjee hodjee
Howdja do?

MY LITTLE SEED

Take my little hoe
Dig a hole in the ground;
Take my little seed
And I plant it down;
Tooka tooka tooky
Tooky tidal, Oh,
We'll all dance around
And see my little seed grow.

Chorus:

Tooka tooka tooky tidal, Oh,
Tooka tooka tooky tidal, Oh,
Tooka tooka tooky tidal, Oh,
Let's all dance around
And see my little seed grow.

The rain it come
And it washed my ground
I thought my little seed
Was going to drown
I waded and I splashed,
And I carried my seed,
I planted it again
On some higher ground.



BUILD A HOUSE

Chorus:

Bling. Blang.
Hammer with my hammer.
Zingo. Zango.
Cutting with my saw.

You get a hammer and I'll get a nail;
You catch a bird and I'll catch a snail;
You bring a board and I'll bring a saw
And we'll build a house for the babyo.

(Chorus)

I'll grab some mud and you grab some clay;
So when it rains it won't wash away;
We'll build a house that'll be so strong
The winds will sing my baby a song.

(Chorus)

Run, bring rocks and I'll bring bricks;
A nice pretty house we'll build and fix;
We'll jump inside when the cold wind blows
And kiss our pretty little babyo.

(Chorus)

You bring a ladder and I'll get a box;
Build our house out of bricks and blocks;
When the snowbird flies and the honeybee come
We'll feed our baby on honey in the comb.

Bling. Blang.
Hammer with my hammer.
Zingo. Zango.
Cutting with my saw.

Bling. Blang.
Hammer with my hammer.
Zingo. Zango.
Cutting with my saw.



NEEDLE SING

Don't you hear my needle sing? (Zzzng)
 Don't you hear my needle sing? (Znnng)
 Don't you hear my needle sing? (Znnng)
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Knittin' for my daddy. Needle sing.
 Knittin' for my daddy. Needle sing.
 Knittin' for my daddy. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Stitchin' for my Brother. Needle sing.
 Stitchin' for my Brother. Needle sing.
 Stitchin' for my Brother. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Darnin' for my Sister. Needle sing.
 Darnin' for my Sister. Needle sing.
 Darnin' for my Sister. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

ALL WORK TOGETHER

Chorus.
 (Twice)
 We all work together
 With a wiggle and a giggle
 We all work together
 With a giggle and a grin

With a wiggle and a giggle
 And a google and a google
 A jigger and a jagger
 And a giggle and a grin.

My mama said,
 And my teacher, too,
 All kinds of work
 That I can do
 Dry my dishes,
 Sweep my floor,
 But if we all work together,
 Well, it won't take long, so: (Chorus)

My daddy he said,
 And my grandpaw, too,
 There's work, worka, work
 For me to do,
 I can paint my fence
 I can mow my lawn
 But, if we all work together,
 Well, it shouldn't take long, so:

My sister told me,
 Brother told me, too,
 Lots and lotsa work
 That I can do,
 I can bring her candy,
 I can bring him gum,
 But, if we all work together,
 Hadn't oughtta take long, so:

I tell mommy an my daddy,
 Gram paw an' Gran'maw, too,
 And tell my sister and my brother,
 There's lots of work to do,
 You can bring me pennies,
 And candy and gum,
 But, if we all work together,
 'Twon't take so very long, and, so:

(Chorus)

Baby ate my thimble. Needle sing.
 Baby ate my thimble. Needle sing.
 Baby ate my thimble. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Thread it keeps a breakin'. Needle sing.
 Thread it keeps a breakin'. Needle sing.
 Thread it keeps a breakin'. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Kitten got my button. Needle sing.
 Kitten got my button. Needle sing.
 Kitten got my button. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Chicken's in my basket. Needle sing.
 Chicken's in my basket. Needle sing.
 Chicken's in my basket. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Zinga Zinga Zinga Zing. Needle sing.
 Zinga Zinga Zinga Zing. Needle sing.
 Zinga Zinga Zinga Zing. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

(Chorus)

Cetchin' me a sweetheart. Needle sing.
 Cetchin' me a sweetheart. Needle sing.
 Cetchin' me a sweetheart. Needle sing.
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?
 ZZZZZZZZZZ ZZZZZZZZ ZZZ ZZ zz
 Mama, don't you hear my needle sing?

