

Smithsonian Folkways Recordings
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
750 9th Street NW
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Washington, D.C. 20560-0953
www.si.edu/folkways



Smithsonian Folkways

Pete Seeger



Song and Play Time

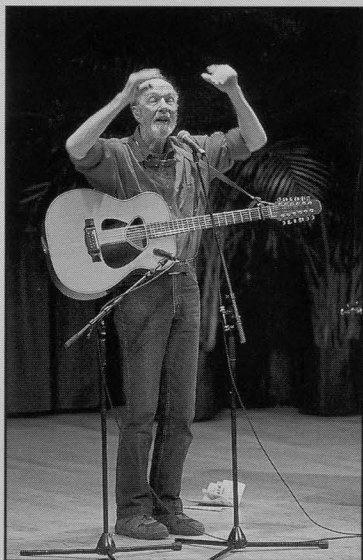


Photo: Jeff Tinsley, Smithsonian Institution

Pete Seeger

Song and Play Time

1. **Go In and Out the Window** 2:55
2. **She'll Be Comin' 'round the Mountain** 3:00
3. **Skip to My Lou** 4:44
4. **Here We Go Loopy-Loo** 2:21
5. **Goin' to Boston** 1:54
(Jean Ritchie/Associated Music Publishers, ASCAP)
6. **Little Sally Walker** 1:33
(Huddie Ledbetter/TRO-Folkways Music Publishers Inc., BMI)
7. **I've Been Workin' on the Railroad** 1:05
8. **Let Us Come In** 3:10
(Malvina Reynolds/Schroder Music Company, ASCAP)
9. **Birthday Polka** 1:17
(Malvina Reynolds/Schroder Music Company, ASCAP)
10. **I Wonder, I Wonder, I Wonder** 2:04
(Pete Seeger/Stormking Music Inc., BMI)
11. **Captain Jinks** 2:17
12. **Bob-A-Needle** 1:21
(Arr. Marcia Berman/Stormking Music Inc., BMI)
13. **Mary Wore a Red Dress** 2:08
(Alan Lomax, John Lomax Sr./TRO-Ludlow Music Inc., BMI)
14. **Redbird** 3:01
(Arr. H. Ledbetter, A. Lomax, D. Gordon/TRO-Folkways Music Pub.)
15. **Ha, Ha, This-A-Way** 4:04
(Huddie Ledbetter/TRO-Folkways Music Pub.)
16. **Soon As We Cook Sweet Potatoes** 3:32

Originally issued as Folkways Records FC 7526 in 1960
SFW CD 45023

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Curator's Introduction

IT'S EASY TO ASSUME THAT SONGS like "She'll Be Comin' 'round the Mountain," "Skip to My Lou," "Here We Go Loopy-Loo," and "I've Been Workin' on the Railroad" have always been a prominent part of American life. It's easy to think this because they *have* become central to the canon of American folk-song. It wasn't always this way, though. The first half of the twentieth century saw a number of American scholars, composers, and bards from the cities searching for, documenting, and making public the voices of rural Americans singing songs that had emerged out of the unique American experience. At the time, this was a novel idea, driven by a belief in the cultural importance of these songs and a democratic passion that the expressions of working-class Americans be a part of the national "cultural conversation."

In the 1930s and 1940s, Ruth Crawford Seeger (1901–1953) notated many folksongs in the collections at the Library of Congress and made them available for home and school use in her 1948 Doubleday & Company book *American Folk Songs for Children*. Her stepson Pete Seeger took the next step in reintroducing folksongs such as these into the nation's musical life. Over a career spanning more than six decades, he roused his audiences to sing along

with him and make music more a part of their daily lives. He recorded 54 albums with Folkways Records and other albums on the Columbia label. This recording, originally published in 1960, shows Pete Seeger at his best. Straightforward and irresistible, his voice invites us to join with him for the fun of it. In fact, given today's improvements in audio technology, it may represent Pete Seeger better than ever, at least in recorded form. Hearing the appeal of his voice a half century later, it is easy to understand why he had such an enormous impact on American culture.

Pete Seeger's approach to the songs he sings has never been to expect his audiences merely to imitate his renditions in a "purist" fashion. He offers his music as a gift to all of us, instructing us to do with them as we like, shaping them to suit our own needs and musical tastes. In this way, they can become our own, part of our personal or family tradition. We invite you to take him up on his offer.

Other recordings of Pete Seeger on Smithsonian Folkways and Folkways are listed in these notes and are found at our Web site: www.si.edu/folkways, and in our printed catalogues. Order information is also listed at the back of this booklet.

DANIEL SHEEHY
DIRECTOR AND CURATOR
SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS RECORDINGS

The Songs

1. Go In and Out the Window

Go in and out the window. (3x)
As you have done before.
Go forth and seek your lover. (3x)
As you have done before.
Go kiss her when you find her. (3x)
As you have done before.

2. She'll Be Comin' 'round the Mountain

She'll be comin' 'round the mountain
when she comes, toot-toot. (2x)
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain,
she'll be comin' 'round the mountain,
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain
when she comes, toot-toot.

She'll be driving six white horses
when she comes, whoa-back. (2x)
She'll be driving six white horses,
she'll be drivin' six white horses,
She'll be driving six white horses
when she comes, whoa-back, toot-toot.

We will all go out to meet her
when she comes. Hi babe! (2x)
We will all go out to meet her,
we will all go out to meet her,

We will all go out to meet her
when she comes, hi babe, whoa-back,
toot-toot.

We will kill the old red rooster
when she comes, hack-hack. (2x)
We will kill the old red rooster,
we will kill the old red rooster,
We will kill the old red rooster
when she comes, hack-hack, hi babe,
whoa-back, toot-toot.

We will all have chicken and dumplings
when she comes, yum-yum. (2x)
We will all have chicken and dumplings,
we will all have chicken and dumplings,
We will all have chicken and dumplings
when she comes, yum-yum, hack, hack,
hi babe, whoa-back, toot-toot.

She'll have to sleep with Grandma
when she comes, (snort-whistle). (2x)
She'll have to sleep with Grandma,
she'll have to sleep with Grandma,
She'll have to sleep with Grandma
when she comes, (snort-whistle), yum-yum,
hack-hack, hi babe, whoa-back, toot-toot.

She'll be wearin' red pajamas
when she comes, scratch-scratch. (2x)
She'll be wearin' red pajamas,
she'll be wearin' red pajamas,

She'll be wearin' red pajamas
when she comes, scratch-scratch,
(snort-whistle), yum-yum, hack-hack,
hi babe, whoa-back, toot-toot.

3. Skip to My Lou

Lost my partner, what'll I do? (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

I'll get another one, prettier than you, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Little red wagon painted blue, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Can't get a redbird, a blue bird'll do, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Cat's in the cream jar, what'll I do? (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Fly's in the sugar bowl, shoo, shoo, shoo, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Goin' to Texas two by two, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

Clap your hands two by two, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

One more time, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.
Gone again, skip to my Lou, (3x)
Skip to my Lou my darlin'.

4. Here We Go Loopy-Lo

Chorus:
Here we go loop-ti-loo,
here we go loop-ti-light.
Here we go loopy-ti-loo,
all on a Saturday night.

Put your right foot in,
put your right foot out.
Give your foot a shake, shake, shake,

and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

Put your left foot in,
put your left foot out.
Give your foot a shake, shake, shake,
and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

Put your right hand in,
put your right hand out.
Give your hand a shake, shake, shake,
and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

Put your left hand in,
put your left hand out.
Give your hand a shake, shake, shake,
and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

Put your head way in,
put your head way out.
Give your head a shake, shake, shake,
and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

Put your whole self in,
put your whole self out.
Give yourself a shake, shake, shake,
and turn yourself about. //
Chorus

5. Goin' to Boston

Goodbye girls, I'm goin' to Boston. (3x)
Early in the mornin'.

Chorus:
Won't we look pretty in the ballroom? (3x)
Early in the mornin'.

Saddle up girls and let's go with 'im. (3x)
Early in the mornin'. // Chorus

Get outa the way, you'll get run over. (3x)
Early in the mornin'. // Chorus

Right and left will make it better. (3x)
Early in the mornin'. // Chorus

Swing your partner all the way to Boston. (3x)
Early in the mornin'. // Chorus

Johnny, Johnny, gonna tell your pappy. (3x)
Early in the mornin'. // Chorus

6. Little Sally Walker

Little Sally Walker, sittin' in a saucer
Weepin' in the mornin' like a turtledove.
Rise Sally, rise, wipe your weepin' eyes.
Fly to the east and fly to the west.
Fly to the one that you love best.

*Repeat using Jimmy (or another name)
instead of Sally.*

7. I've Been Workin' on the Railroad

I've been workin' on the railroad,
all the livelong day.
I've been workin' on the railroad,
just to pass the time away.
Can't you hear the whistle blowin',
rise up so early in the morn'?
Can't you hear the captain shouting,
"Dinah blow your horn?"

Dinah won't ya blow,
Dinah won't ya blow,
Dinah won't you blow your horn? (2x)

Someone's in the kitchen with Dinah,
someone's in the kitchen, I know.
Someone's in the kitchen with Dinah,
strummin' on the old banjo.

Fee fi fiddle eye oh,
fee fi fiddle eye oh.
Fee fi fiddle eye oh,
strummin' on the old banjo.

8. Let Us Come In

We are three wandering travelers,
out in the wind and the rain.
We saw your light, cheery and bright;
and tapped on your window pane.

Chorus:

Singing let us come in, let us come in,
into your house so gay.
Let us come in, let us come in,
please do not send us away.

One of us plays on the whistle,
he makes such a musical tweet.
One of us sings such beautiful things, and
another keeps time with his feet. // Chorus

Please go ahead with your dinner,
we will just wait till you're through.
But if you find there's enough to go 'round,
save us a beefsteak or two. // Chorus

We will make noise very softly,
the landlord won't hear us at all.
And if there's not enough room in the beds,
we'll just sleep out in the hall. // Chorus

One or two extra won't matter,
plenty of room on the floor.
You'll look around and find we have gone,
after a fortnight or more.

9. Birthday Polka

Who's the little whatnot
Came along our way?
Bobby, Bobby, three years old today.
Looked around the kitchen,
thought he'd better stay.
Bobby, Bobby, three years old today.

Sing halleluia and shinny up a tree.
Hold your hat, hold your specs.
Man the pumps, clear the decks.
Lord knows what will happen next.
Bobby is three!

Landed on the chimney, or maybe in the hay,
Bobby, Bobby, three years old today.
Looked the family over, gave a mild O.K.
Bobby, Bobby, three years old today.

Sing halleluia and shinny up a tree.
Watch your clothes, watch your toes.
Here he comes, there he goes.
Where he'll stop, nobody knows.
Bobby is three!

10. I Wonder, I Wonder, I Wonder

Chorus:

I wonder, I wonder,
I wonder what Tina can possibly do. (2x)

She can play with her blocks,
or go throw some rocks,
or climb a tree and look at the view.
I wonder, I wonder,
I wonder what Tina can possibly do. //

Chorus
I see someone's hand.
I see someone's hair.
I hear someone go peek-a-boo.
I wonder, I wonder,
I wonder what Tina can possibly do. //

Chorus
She crawls on the floor.
She looks 'round the door.
She's tryin' to wear my shoe.
I wonder, I wonder,
I wonder what Tina can possibly do. //

Chorus
I see someone's hair.
I see someone's toes.
But I can't guess possibly who.
I wonder, I wonder,
I wonder what Tina can possibly do. //

11. Captain Jinks

When Captain Jinks comes home at night,
he claps his hands with all his might.
Salute your partner, smile so bright,
for that's the style in the army.

Join your hands and forward all,
backward all, backward all.
Join your hands and forward all,
for that's the style in the army.

When Captain Jinks comes home at night,
the gentleman passes to the right.
Swing your partner so polite,
for that's the style in the army.

Promenade all around the hall,
around the hall, around the hall.
Promenade all around the hall,
for that's the style in the army.

(repeat all)

12. Bob-A-Needle

Hey bob a needle, bob a needle,
bob a needle
Hey bob a needle, bob a needle,
bob a needle, bobba (2x)
Hey bob a needle, bob a needle,
bob a needle
Hey bob, hey bob.

Mary Mack, Mack, Mack,
all dressed in black, black, black,
With silver buttons, buttons, buttons,
up and down her back, back, back.

Well, I went to the river, river, river,
I tried to get across, across, across.
I spent five dollars, dollars, dollars
on an old grey horse, horse, horse.

And, the horse wouldn't pull, pull, pull,
so I swapped her for a bull, bull, bull.
The bull wouldn't holler, holler, holler.
I swapped her for a dollar, dollar, dollar.

The dollar wouldn't spend, spend, spend,
so I threw it in the grass, grass, grass.
The grass wouldn't grow, grow, grow,
so I chopped it with a hoe, hoe, hoe.

And hoe wouldn't chop, chop, chop,
so I took it to the shop, shop, shop.
The shop made money, money, money,
like the bees make honey, honey, honey.

Way down yonder, yonder, yonder,
in the jaybird town, town, town.
Where the women all work, work, work,
when the sun goes down, down, down.

Hey bob a needle . . .

13. Mary Wore a Red Dress

Mary wore her red dress, red dress, red dress
Mary wore her red dress all day long.
Mary wore her red hat, red hat, red hat.
Mary wore her red hat all day long.
Mary wore her red shoes, red shoes, red shoes.
Mary wore her red shoes all day long.
Mary wore her red gloves, red gloves, red gloves.
Mary wore her red gloves all day long.
Mary made a red cake, red cake, red cake.
Mary made a red cake all day long.
Where'd you get your shoes from,
shoes from, shoes from?
Where'd you get your shoes from all day long?
Got them from the dry goods, dry goods,
dry goods.
Got them from the dry goods all day long.
Where'd you get your butter from, butter
from, butter from?
Where'd you get your butter from all day long?
Got it from the grocery, the grocery, the grocery.
Got it from the grocery all day long.
Mary was a redbird, redbird, redbird.
Mary was a redbird all day long.
Who wore a pink dress, pink dress, pink dress?
Who wore a pink dress all day long?
And wore dirty shoes, dirty shoes, dirty shoes?
Who wore dirty shoes all day long?
Mary was a redbird, redbird, redbird.
Mary was a redbird all day long.

14. Redbird

Chorus:

Redbird, soon in the mornin', redbird,
soon in the mornin'. (2x)
Cat got a redbird soon in the mornin',
cat got a redbird soon in the mornin'. (2x) //
Chorus

Whatsa matter with you, redbird,
soon in the mornin'?
Whatsa matter with you, redbird,
soon in the mornin'? (2x) //
Chorus

Hawk got a redbird soon in the mornin',
hawk got a redbird soon in the mornin'. (2x) //
Chorus

Call out the redbird soon in the mornin',
call out the redbird soon in the mornin'. (2x) //
Chorus

Storm got a redbird soon in the mornin',
storm got a redbird soon in the mornin'. (3x) //
Chorus

Redbird, redbird, redbird, redbird. . .

15. Ha, Ha, This A-Way

Chorus:

Ha, ha, this-a-way, ha, ha, that-a-way,
Ha, ha, this-a-way, then oh then. (2x)

When I was a little boy, a little boy, a little boy,
When I was a little boy, a few years old,
My papa went and left me, left me, left me,
My papa went and left me, so I was told. //
Chorus

Mama come and got me, got me, got me,
Mama come and got me to save my soul,
Mama didn't scold me, scold me, scold me
Mama didn't scold me, so I was told. // Chorus

Sittin' in the school, in the school, in the school,
Sittin' in the school to save my soul,
Obeyed the rules, the rules, the rules,
Obeyed the rules, like I was told. // Chorus

I went to a teacher, a teacher, a teacher,
Went to a teacher to save my soul,
Teacher was a preacher, preacher, preacher,
Teacher was a preacher, so I was told. //
Chorus

I learned my lesson, lesson, lesson,
I learned my lesson to save my soul,
Wasn't that a blessin', blessin', blessin'?
Wasn't that a blessin', so I was told. // Chorus

(Repeat first verse and so on.)

16. Soon As We Cook Sweet Potatoes

Roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo, roo,
sing holy dinkum.
Roo, roo, roo; roo, roo, roo; roo, roo, roo.
*(This harmony is sung over and over again
while the verses are sung.)*

Soon as we all cook sweet potatoes,
sweet potatoes, sweet potatoes,
Soon as we all cook sweet potatoes,
eat 'em right straight up.

Soon as supper's et, mummy hollers,
mummy hollers, mummy hollers,
Soon as supper's et, mummy hollers,
"Get along to bed."

Soon's we touch our heads to the pillow,
to the pillow, to the pillow,
Soon's we touch our heads to the pillow,
go to sleep right smart.

Soon's the rooster crow in the mornin',
in the mornin', in the mornin',
Soon's the rooster crow in the mornin',
got to wash our face.

Roo, roo, roo, roo . . .

Pete Seeger's Children's Recordings Available Through Smithsonian Folkways Recordings

Abiyoyo and Other Story Songs for Children
(1989) Reissue of F-7525 from 1958. SFW
45001

American Folk Songs for Children (1990)
Reissue of F-7601 from 1953. SFW 45020

*American Game and Activity Songs for
Children* (1990) Reissue of F-7674 from 1962.
SFW 45025

American Playparties Pete Seeger, Mike Seeger,
and Rev. Larry Eisenberg (1959) F-7604

Birds, Beasts, Bugs & Fishes (Little & Big)
(1998) Reissue of F-7611 from 1955 and
F-7610 from 1955. SFW 45039

Camp Songs Pete Seeger, Erik Darling, and the
Song Swappers (1955) F-7628

Folk Songs for Young People (1990) Reissue
of F-7532 from 1959. SF-45024

Jewish Children's Songs and Games Ruth
Rubin and Pete Seeger (1957) F-7224

Zhitkov's How I Hunted the Little Fellows
(1980) F-7527

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John Smith, marketing and radio promotions;
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About Smithsonian Folkways Recordings

FOLKWAYS RECORDS WAS FOUNDED by Moses Asch in 1948 to document music, spoken word, instruction, and sounds from around the world. In the ensuing decades, New York City-based Folkways became one of the largest independent record labels in the world, reaching a total of nearly 2,200 albums that were always kept in print.

The Smithsonian Institution acquired Folkways from the Moses Asch estate in 1987 to ensure that the sounds and genius of the artists would be preserved for future generations. All Folkways recordings are available by special order on high-quality audio cassettes or CDs. Each recording includes the original LP liner notes.

Smithsonian Folkways Recordings was formed to continue the Folkways tradition of releasing significant recordings with high-quality documentation. It produces new titles, reissues of historic recordings from Folkways and other record labels, and in collaboration with other companies produces instructional videotapes and recordings to accompany published books and other educational projects.

The Smithsonian Folkways, Folkways, Cook, Dyer-Bennet, Fast Folk, Monitor, and Paredon record labels are administered by the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. They are one of the means through which the center supports the work of traditional artists and expresses its commitment to cultural diversity, education, and increased understanding.

You can find Smithsonian Folkways Recordings at your local record store. Smithsonian Folkways, Folkways, Cook, Dyer-Bennet, Fast Folk, Monitor, and Paredon recordings are all available through:

Smithsonian Folkways Recordings
Mail Order
750 9th Street, NW, Suite 4100
Washington, DC 20560-0953
phone 1 (800) 410-9815 (orders only)
fax 1 (800) 853-9511 (orders only)
(Discover, MasterCard, Visa, and
American Express accepted)

For further information about all the labels distributed through the center, consult our Internet site (www.si.edu/folkways), which includes information about recent releases, our catalogue, and a database of the approximately 35,000 tracks from the more than 2,300 available recordings (click on database search). To request a printed catalogue, write to the address above or e-mail folkways@aol.com





Smithsonian Folkways Recordings

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Pete Seeger

Song and Play Time

PETE SEEGER offers his music as a gift to all of us so that we might make it our own, part of our personal or family tradition. During a career spanning more than six decades, he has roused audiences — of children and adults — to tap their feet, clap their hands, and sing along with him. These songs for children, originally recorded in 1960, present Pete Seeger at his best. Straightforward and irresistible, his voice invites us to join with him for the fun of it. Beautifully remastered, 12-page booklet with lyrics. 40 minutes.

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3. Skip to My Lou 4:44
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