

ORMA Lunch Music: Songs for rallies and marches

Woody Guthrie Copyright Notice: "This song is Copyrighted in U.S., under Seal of Copyright # 154085, for a period of 28 years, and anybody caught singin it without our permission, will be mighty good friends of ourn, cause we don't give a dern. Publish it. Write it. Sing it. Swing to it. Yodel it. We wrote it, that's all we wanted to do."

Here's hoping the other people who wrote these songs feel the same!

1. This Land is Your Land by Woody Guthrie

**This land is your land, this land is my land
From California to the New York Island
From the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream waters
This land was made for you and me.**

As I was walking that ribbon of highway
I saw above me that endless skyway
I saw below me that golden valley
This land was made for you and me.

I roamed and I rambled and I followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts
While all around me a voice was sounding
This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking I saw a sign there
And on the sign it said "No Trespassing."
But on the other side it didn't say nothing,
That side was made for you and me.

Nobody living can ever stop me,
As I go walking that freedom highway;

Nobody living can ever make me turn back
This land was made for you and me.

In the squares of the city, In the shadow of a steeple;
By the relief office, I'd seen my people.
As they stood there hungry, I stood there asking,
Is this land made for you and me?

When the sun came shining, and I was strolling
And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling
A voice was chanting, As the fog was lifting,
This land was made for you and me.

2. We shall overcome

We shall overcome
We shall overcome, some day
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
We shall overcome, some day

We'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand
We'll walk hand in hand, some day

We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace, some day

We are not afraid
We are not afraid
We are not afraid, TODAY

The whole wide world around
The whole wide world around
The whole wide world around some day

3. Troublemaker by Maria Dunn

(Canadian, requires some rewriting for USA)

They call me a troublemaker 'cause I'm finally saying "no"
I've been working hard and yet my pay is still so low
But when I spoke my mind they said:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

Troublemaker, Troublemaker

They call me a greedy worker 'cause I want my rollback back
In my employer's time of need I tried to help them get on track
But when I asked to share the profits they said:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

They call me a troublemaker 'cause I walk that picket line
Telling this new contractor they've taken what is mine
But when I walked where I'd be seen they said:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

They call me scaremonger because I won't agree
To someone making profits from the healthcare that we need
But when I asked who's making money they said:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

They call me a troublemaker 'cause I'm gonna demonstrate
And make sure human rights don't take a back seat to world trade
But as I blocked their logging road they said:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

They call me an idealist because I want to close the gap
The poor are getting poorer in Alberta's ample lap
So next time I cast my vote I'll say:
"Troublemaker's gotta go"

4. Blowin' in the Wind

Bob Dylan

How many roads must a man walk down
Before you call him a man?
How many seas must a white dove sail
Before she sleeps in the sand?
Yes, 'n' how many times must the cannon balls fly
Before they're forever banned?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Yes, 'n' how many years can a mountain exist
Before it's washed to the sea?
Yes, 'n' how many years can some people exist
Before they're allowed to be free?
Yes, 'n' how many times can a man turn his head
And pretend that he just doesn't see?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Yes, 'n' how many times must a man look up
Before he can see the sky?
Yes, 'n' how many ears must one man have
Before he can hear people cry?
Yes, 'n' how many deaths will it take till he knows
That too many people have died?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

5. Let There Be Peace on Earth
Jill Jackson / Sy Miller

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me

6. Solidarity Forever by Ralph Chaplin

When the union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall run,
There can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun;
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one,
But the union makes us strong.
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong.

Is there aught we hold in common with the greedy parasite,
Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his might?
Is there anything left to us but to organize and fight?
For the union makes us strong.

It is we who plowed the prairies; built the cities where they trade;
Dug the mines and built the workshops, endless miles of railroad laid;
Now we stand outcast and starving midst the wonders we have made;
But the union makes us strong.

All the world that's owned by idle drones is ours and ours alone.
We have laid the wide foundations; built it skyward stone by stone.
It is ours, not to slave in, but to master and to own.
While the union makes us strong.

They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn,
But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn.
We can break their haughty power, gain our freedom when we learn
That the union makes us strong.

In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold,
Greater than the might of armies, magnified a thousand-fold.
We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old
For the union makes us strong.

7. If I had a hammer
Lee Hays / Pete Seeger

If I had a Hammer
I'd hammer in the morning
I'd hammer in the evening
All over this land
I'd hammer out danger
I'd hammer out a warning
I'd hammer out love between
My brothers and my sisters, ah-ah
All over this land

If I had a bell
I'd ring it in the morning
I'd ring it in the evening
All over this land
I'd ring out danger
I'd ring out a warning
I'd ring out love between
My brothers and my sisters, ah-ah
All over this land

If I had a song
I'd sing it in the morning
I'd sing it in the evening
All over this world
I'd sing out danger
I'd sing out a warning
I'd sing out love between
My brothers and my sisters ah-ah
All over this land

I got a hammer
And I've got a bell
And I've got a song to sing
All over this land
It's the hammer of justice
It's the bell of freedom
It's the song about love between
My brothers and my sisters
All over this land

8. Light a candle
by Mary Louise Bringle

Light a candle in the darkness
for these days of warring madness.
Light a candle, keep it burning,
shine a path for peace returning.

Light a candle warm with caring
for the fearful and despairing.
Light a candle so revealing,
ardent prayers for hope and healing.

Light a path to lasting peace here
where the greatest and the least can
light a candle, keep it glowing -
see the reign of peace is growing!

Light a path to every nation,
time for reconciliation!
Light a candle, keep it burning,
light the way to peace returning.

9. There's a man goin' round spreading lies **By Shirley Jackson Whitaker**

There's a man goin' round spreading lies
There's a man goin' round spreading lies
He demands my loyalty
As he destroys democracy
There's a man goin' round spreading lies

There's a man goin' round spreading lies
There's a man goin' round spreading lies
He divides us using hate
But that will never make us great
There's a man going round spreading lies.

There's a man goin' round spreading lies
There's a man goin' round spreading lies
The reporters he bullies and blame
So his crimes will not be named
There's a man goin' round spreading lies

There's a man goin' round spreading lies
There's a man goin' round spreading lies
He's a dictator wanna be
But we are determined to breathe free
There's a man goin' round spreading lies

There's a man goin' round spreading lies
There's a man going round spreading lies
His racism I despise
But Democracy will survive
There's a man goin' round spreading lies

10. Drill ye Tarriers Drill **by Charles Connolly and Thomas Casey**

Every morning at seven o'clock
There's twenty tarriers a drillin' at the rock
The boss comes along and he says: "Keep still
And come down heavy on the cast-iron-drill!"
And drill, ye tarriers, drill!
Drill, ye tarriers, drill!
Oh, it's work all day For the sugar in your tay
Down behind the railway!
Then drill ye tarriers, drill!
And blast And fire!

Our new foreman is John Mc-Cann
By God, he was a blamed mean man
Last week a premature blast went off
A mile in the air went big Jim Goff!
And drill, ye tarriers, drill!

When next payday came around
Jim Goff a Dollar short was found
When he asked: "What for?" came this reply:
"You were docked for the time you was up in the sky!"
And drill, ye tarriers, drill!

The boss was a fine man down to the ground
And he married a lady six feet 'round
She baked good bread and she baked it well
But she baked it harder than the hobs of Hell!
And drill, ye tarriers, drill!

11. Brother Can You Spare a Dime
by E. Y. Harburg / Jay Gorney

Once I built a railroad, I made it run
Made it race against time
Once I built a railroad, now it's done
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once I built a tower up to the sun
Brick and rivet and lime
Once I built a tower, now it's done
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once in khaki suits, gee we looked swell
Full of that yankee doodly dum
Half a million boots went sloggin' through hell
And I was the kid with the drum
Say, don't you remember, they called me Al
It was Al all of the time
Say don't you remember, I'm your pal
Say buddy, can you spare a dime?

[update from the 70's, in need of renewal...]
Once we had a Roosevelt
Praise the Lord!
Life had meaning and hope.
Now we're stuck with Nixon, Agnew, Ford,
Brother, can you spare a rope?

12. America the Beautiful by Katherine Lee Bates

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
Till souls wax fair as earth and air
And music-hearted sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for glory-tale
Of liberating strife,
When valiantly for man's avail
Men lavished precious life.
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till selfish gain no longer stain, The banner of the free!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
Till nobler men keep once again Thy shining jubilee

13. We hate to see them go **by Malvina Reynolds**

INTRO

Last night, I had the strangest dream,
I saw a big parade, with ticker-tape galore,
And men were marching there the like
I'd never seen before:

Oh the bankers and the diplomats are going in the army.
Oh happy day! I'd give my pay to see them on parade,
Their paunches at attention
and their striped pants at ease.
They've gotten patriotic and they're going overseas.
We'll have to do the best we can and bravely carry on,
So we'll just keep the laddies here
to manage while they're gone.
Oh, oh, we hate to see them go,
The gentlemen of distinction in the army.

The bankers and the diplomats are going in the army,
It seemed too bad to keep them from the wars they love to plan.
We're all of us contented that they'll fight a dandy war,
They don't need propaganda, they know what they're fighting for.
They'll march away with dignity and in the best of form,
And we'll just keep the laddies here to keep the lassies¹ warm.

The bankers and the diplomats are going in the army,
We're going to make things easy cause it's all so new and strange;
We'll give them silver shovels when they have to dig a hole,
And they can sing in harmony when answering the roll,
They'll eat their old K-rations from a hand-embroidered box,
And when they die, we'll bring them home, and bury them in Fort Knox.

14. The Internationale

Words by Eugene Pottier (1871). Music by Pierre Degeyter (1888)

Arise, ye prisoners of starvation!
Arise, ye wretched of the earth!
For justice thunders condemnation:
A better world's in birth!
No more tradition's chains shall bind us;
Arise, ye slaves, no more in thrall!
The earth shall rise on new foundations:
We have been nought, we shall be all!
'Tis the final conflict;
Let each stand in his place.
The International working class
Shall be the human race!

15. A Man's A Man For A' That

Robert Burns (born January 25, 1759)

Is there for honest Poverty
That hings his head, an' a' that;
The coward slave-we pass him by,
We dare be poor for a' that!
For a' that, an' a' that.
Our toils obscure an' a' that,
The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The Man's the gowd for a' that.

What though on hamely fare we dine,
Wear hoddin grey, an' a' that;
Gie fools their silks, and knaves their wine;
A Man's a Man for a' that:
For a' that, and a' that,
Their tinsel show, an' a' that;

The honest man, tho' e'er sae poor,
Is king o' men for a' that.

Ye see yon birkie, ca'd a lord,
Wha struts, an' stares, an' a' that;
Tho' hundreds worship at his word,
He's but a coof for a' that:
For a' that, an' a' that,
His ribband, star, an' a' that:
The man o' independent mind
He looks an' laughs at a' that.

A prince can mak a belted knight,
A marquis, duke, an' a' that;
But an honest man's abon his might,
Gude faith, he maunna fa' that!
For a' that, an' a' that,
Their dignities an' a' that;
The pith o' sense, an' pride o' worth,
Are higher rank than a' that.

Then let us pray that come it may,
(As come it will for a' that,)
That Sense and Worth, o'er a' the earth,
Shall bear the gree, an' a' that.
For a' that, an' a' that,
It's coming yet for a' that,
That Man to Man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that.

compiled by Judy Conrad
judithconrad@mindspring.com