

(air and song - the quintessence of Aussie Folk Music)

# Waltzing Matilda

Music by Christina Macpherson

Words by Banjo Paterson

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and rhythmic, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, A7, D, G, D, D, D, A7, D, A7, D, Bm, D, D, A7, D, D, D, G, D, D, G, D, D, A7, D, G, D, D, A7, D. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Verse 1. Oh! There once was a swagman, camped in a billabong,  
Under the shade of a coolibah tree,  
And he sang as he looked at his old billy boiling,  
Who'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me?

Chorus Who'll come a 'waltzing Matilda my darling,  
Who'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me,  
'waltzing Matilda and leading awater bag,  
Who'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me.

Verse 2. Down came a jumbuck to drink at the billabong,  
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee,  
And he said as he put him away in the tucker bag  
"You'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me"!

Verse 3. Down came the squatter a 'riding his thoroughbred,  
Down came policemen, one, two and three:  
"Whose is the jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag?  
You'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me."

Verse 4. But the swagman, he up and jumped in the water-hole,  
Drowning himself by the coolibah tree.  
And his ghost may be heard as it sings by the billabong,  
Who'll come a 'waltzing Matilda with me.

*Written in 1895 at Dagworth Station, near Kynuna, Queensland, and is probably derived from the tune composed in 1808 by James Barr of Kilbarchan, Scotland, for the poem Thou Bonny Wood O'Craigielea by Robert Tannahill of Paisley, Scotland.*