

Parting songs – RainyCamp 2021 (Bruce Baker)

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Ashoken Farewell

Music: Jay Unger -- Lyrics: Grian Mcgregor

The sun is sinking low in the sky above Ashokan.
The pines and the willows know soon we will part.
There's a whisper in the wind of promises unspoken,
And a love that will always remain in my heart.

My thoughts will return to the sound of your laughter,
The magic of moving as one,
And a time we'll remember long ever after
The moonlight and music and dancing are done.

Will we climb the hills once more?
Will we walk the woods together?

Will I feel you holding me close once again?
Will every song we've sung stay with us forever?
Will you dance in my dreams or my arms until then?

Under the moon the mountains lie sleeping
Over the lake the stars shine.
They wonder if you and I will be keeping
The magic and music, or leave them behind.

Will we climb the hills once more?
Will we walk the woods together?
Will I feel you holding me close once again?
Will every song we've sung stay with us forever?
Will you dance in my dreams or my arms until then?

My thoughts will return to the sound of your laughter,
The magic of moving as one,
And a time we'll remember long ever after
The moonlight and music and dancing are done.

Blessing [Donna Hébert](#) (Sung by Lui Collins)

May the Eastern breezes bless you
Lift your spirits make them fly
May the Southern sun shine on you
Warm your heart and help you try

May the western waters cleanse you
Washing over all you feel
Northern Earth be yours to stand in
Ground you so you know what's real

Overall be strength and beauty
Food and friends and music fine
Work you love and pleasant duty
Love to make your spirit shine

All of these I wish upon you
Multiply them three times three
Draw a circle all around you
And forever blessed be. (repeat all)

The Gathering of Spirits – [Carrie Newcomer](#) RSA 84

Let it go my love my truest,
Let it sail on silver wings
Life's a twinkling that's for certain,
But it's such a fine thing
There's a gathering of spirits
There's a festival of friends
And we'll take up where we left off
When we all meet again.

I can't explain it. I couldn't if I tried
How the only things we carry
Are the things we hold inside
Like a day in out the open,
Like the love we won't forget
Like the laughter that we started
And hasn't died down yet

Oh yah, now didn't we
And don't we make it shine
Aren't we standing in the center of
Something rare and fine
Some glow like embers
Or light through colored glass
Some give it all in one great flame
Throwing kisses as they pass

Just east of Eden
But there's heaven in our midst
And we're never really all that far
From those we love and miss
Wade out in the water
There's a glory all around
The wisest say there's a 1000 ways
The kneel and kiss the ground

Goodnight Song

(Sung by [Blue Murder](#) with Jim Boyes)

So goodnight my friends as the dawn comes pale
And the Eastern wind brings the threat of gale
Keep a hold on hope through the darkest vale
And we'll meet further on down the road

I have travelled far from this island strand
From the icy wastes to the burning sand
Ploughed the raging sea, seen the verdant land
Been at home in a place far away

Many differences but much the same
Though the ways are strange and have different names
But a friendly face breaks a thousand chains
And a smile breaks the lock on the door

We have joined in song, laughed a night away
Swapped out tales of woe, kept the clouds at bay
In the morning clear will be on our way
But we'll meet further on down the road

So lets drink a health to good times gone by
When our spirits soared and we touched the sky
And we'll bid farewell but not goodbye
And we'll meet further on down the road

Goodnight Song *Maggie Boyle*

And so the time has come
The evening at an end
We must say farewell and go as friends
It seems only right to say
What wond'rous sheer delight
To share such moments here
with you tonight

Chorus:

May you always be happy
Make the most of each new day
May you all help one another on the way
May your journey seem shorter
Than the one that brought you here
May you soon lie in arms of those that you hold dear

We've weaved a tale or two
All have played their part
And sung to raise the rafters from the start
So at this closing hour
Not knowing where or when
One chorus more - and we may meet again . . . (Rpt Chorus)

A new '[Parting Song](#)' sung by Duncan McFarlane & Maggie Boyle

HEALTH TO THE COMPANY

Kind friends and companions, come join me in rhyme
And lift up your voices in chorus with mine
Let us drink and be merry, all grief to refrain
For we may and might never all meet here again

Here's a health to the company and one to my lass
Let us drink and be merry all out of one glass
Let us drink and be merry, all grief to refrain
For we may and might never all meet here again

Here's a health to the dear lass that I love so well
Her style and her beauty, sure none can excel
She smiles on my countenance and sits on me knee
Sure there's no one in Erin as happy as we

Our ship lies at harbor, she's ready to dock
I hope she's safe landed without any shock
If ever I meet you by land or by sea
I will always remember your kindness to me

Hearth and Fire

[Gordon Bok](#)

Hearth and Fire be ours tonight, and all the dark outside
Fair the night and kind on you, wherever you may bide

And I'll be the sun upon your head, the wind about your face
My love upon the path you tread, & upon your wanderings, peace

Song and wine be ours tonight & all the cold outside
Peace and warmth be yours tonight, wherever you may bide

Hearth and fire be ours tonight & the wind in the birches bare
O that the wind we hear tonight would find you well and fair

HERE IS MY HOME (Si Kahn)

Good friends from whom we now must part,
Where are we bound?
Your hands and voices lift my heart;
Here is my home.

Come darkness, come light
Where are we bound?
Come morning, come night

Here is my home.

For those who work in harmony,
Where are we bound?
Can learn to live in unity;
Here is my home.

If we can join ourselves in song,
Where are we bound?
Our hearts will live when we are gone;
Here is my home.

The spirit that finds music here
Where are we bound?
Will sing forever in the air
Here is my home.

Here's To Song

[Allister MacGillivray](#)

The candle flickers t'wards its last;
Our time together's ended.
The evening sped so swiftly past;
No richer way to spend it.
Before we head our sep'rate ways,
I'd like in truthfulness to say:
You've made this day a special day
With songs and kindness splendid.

Here's to song, here's to time,
Here's to both with friends of mine
Here's to friends who raise their voices high.
Kings have riches widely lain,
Lords have lands but then again,
We have friends and songs no wealth can buy.

We each a diff'rent road must go
To mountain, sea or city
The hour has come for sweet adieus,
And ah, the more's the pity.
But first unite in hand and heart
And sing a chorus e'er we part,
For every end leads to a start,
We need not part so sadly.

Until our paths in future cross
May blessings kindly wait you.
Until that time I must alas
I'll leave and then re-meet you.

But often I will sit and stare
And think upon this moment rare,
The company beyond compare,
So now farewell and thank you.

Here's to You

Alan Bell

When first we met, complete awkward strangers
We did not know if we could be friends
How soon we've come for to know each other
And now I know we will meet again

**So here's to you and our time together
I'll share with you a parting glass
And I'll bid adieu with some smiles and laughter
Our time apart will be short and pass**

We've talked of dreams and of new tomorrows
Of yesterday and its dark despair
We've had our share of love and sorrow
And now we part as friends who care

A long, long road, it lies before me
And fate will take me where it will
But through the valleys and over mountains
I'll not forget, but remember you still

HOME SWEET HOME

Mid Pleasures and palaces though I may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;
A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,
Which, seek thro' the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere.

Home Home! Sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home.
There's no place like home.

An exile from home, splendor dazzles in vain,
Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again;
The birds singing gaily, that come at my call;
Give me them, with that peace of mind, dearer than all.

To thee, I'll return, overburdened with care,

The heart's dearest solace will smile on me there.
No more from that cottage again will I roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.

Words by John Howard Payne, music by Henry Rowley Bishop.

Journeys End

The fire is out, the moon is down
The parting glass is dry and done
And I must go and leave this town
Before the rising of the sun
And long's the road and far's the mile
Before I rest my soul again
With girls that weep and girls that smile
And all the words and ways of men

For some there are, who may not bide
But wander to the journey's end
Nor take a girl to be a bride
Nor keep a man to be a friend
And when I'm done with wandering
I'll sit beside the road and weep
For all the songs I did not sing
And promises I did not keep

- words and music by J.B. Goodenough

KEEP IN MIND (THAT I LOVE YOU)

Jane Voss, 1972

What are friends for, but to let you know you're treasured in some heart?
And to bring you thoughts of pleasure when you are far apart.
And to keep you ever mindful of the happiness you give,
Make your way a little lighter, bring you roses while you live.

Keep in mind that I love you, keep in mind that I care,
Though the world that's moving round you may bring grief and despair.
When you find yourself alone amidst the city's push and shove,
Don't be discouraged, keep in mind that you are loved.

We'll be parting in a day or so to go our separate ways,
And I don't expect we'll meet again for many's the sad long day.
But I hope you won't be lonely, and you'll never lack for friends,
And may each and every one of them be true as I have been.

Sometimes this crazy world can make you feel you have no place,
And that there's no one on this earth who's glad to see your face.
But those who do not know you well are the poorer by far,
So remember there are those of us who know how good you are.

chorus (twice, but substitute this for the last line the second time)
May it ever be a blessing, keep in mind that you are loved.

Last Trip Home (Battlefield Band memory of Davy Steele)

A've ay worked on farms and fae the the start the muckle horses won ma heart,
Wi' their big broad backs they proudly stand, the uncrowned kings o a' the land,
An' yet for a' their power and strength, they're as gentle as a summer's wind.

So steady boys walk on, oor work is nearly done,
No more we'll till or plough the fields, the horses' day is gone,
An'this will be oor last trip home, so steady boys walk on.

You'll hear men sing their songs of praise, of Arab stallions in a race,
Or Hunters that fly wi' the hounds, to chase the fox and run him down,
But none o' them compare I vow, tae a workin' pair that pulls the plough.

Aw the years I've plied ma trade, an aw the fields we've ploughed and laid,
I never thought I'd see the time when a Clydesdale's work wid ever end,
But progress runs its driven course noo tractors hae replaced ma horse.

As we head back our friends have lined the road tae see us one last time,
Not one o' them will want tae miss, the chance tae see us pass like this,
They'll say they saw in years tae come, the muckle horses' last trip home.

No Time to tarry here

Mothers all, fare you well (x3)
I'm on my journey home

No time to tarry here,
No time to wait for you,
No time to tarry here,
I'm on my journey home

Fathers all....
Brothers all.....

Sisters all.....
Neighbours all....
Sinners all....

NOW IS THE HOUR ([HAERE RA](#))

Maori Farewell Song 1913 music -Clement Scott and words -Maewa Kaihau.

Now is the hour
When we must say good-bye
Soon you'll be sailing
Far across the sea
While I'm away
Oh please remember me
When you return you'll find me
Waiting here

I'll dream of you
If you will dream of me
Each hour I'll miss you
Here across the sea
It's not good-bye
It's just a sweet adieu
Some day I'll sail across the
Seas to you

Haere ra
Te manu tangi pai
E haere ana
Koe ki pa mamoa
Haere ra
Ka hoki mai ano
Kite tau E tangi
Atu nei

Parting Glass

Of all the money that e'er I spent
I've spent it in good company
And all the harm that ever I did
Alas it was to none but me
And all I've done for want of wit
To memory now I can't recall
So fill to me the parting glass
Good night and joy be with you all

If I had money enough to spend
And leisure to sit awhile

There is a fair maid in the town
That sorely has my heart beguiled
Her rosy cheeks and ruby lips
I own she has my heart enthralled
So fill to me the parting glass
Good night and joy be with you all

Oh, all the comrades that e'er I had
They're sorry for my going away
And all the sweethearts that e'er I had
They'd wish me one more day to stay
But since it falls unto my lot
That I should rise and you should not
I'll gently rise and softly call
Good night and joy be with you all

PARTING SONG-[Webber](#)

Soon the morning sun will rise,
And dawn will bathe the sky.
There's time for just this parting song,
Before we say goodbye.

So sing together one and all,
And raise a glass of wine,
Here's hoping we will meet again,
Along the road of time.

We've shared our stories, yours and mine,
We've shared our hopes and fears.
With memories of distant youth,
We've both rolled back the years.

The ever-turning, fateful wheel,
Must cause our ways to part.
And bringing untold mysteries,
Another day will start.

For from endings come beginnings,
From the old shall come the new,
With hopes for tomorrow,
We'll see our parting through.

Safe Home

Written By: [Johnsmith](#)

We've come thru the valleys
We've come thru the fields

We've crossed over rivers
To find ourselves here
We sang songs of sorrow
We sang songs of love
Let's sing one more together
To send ourselves off

Safe Home, Safe Home, Safe Home will you go
May the light of the moon smile down on your road
Safe Home, Safe Home, Safe Home will you go
Until I next see you, safe home will you go

We've laid down our worries
Our troubles our fears
Like shells on the strand
Washed by laughter and tears
The tide has returned now
To carry us away
Back to our houses
And families we pray

The fiddles are quiet
The whistles all still
Only echoes remain
From the jigs and the reels
The dance floor is empty
Our farewells all said
Now it's time to be goin'
And 'til we all meet again

SENDING US HOME, [Heidi Muller](#) 2016

The sun is down, our sails are furled

Long may we sing

Peace is settling on the world

Circling the world, oh

Velvet sky a-light with stars (and)

Dreams on the wing

Sending us home, sweet home

What a lovely time we've had

Long may we sing

Friend to friend, our hearts are glad

Circling the world, oh

Voices lifted up as one

Dreams on the wing

Sending us home, sweet home

All the blessings we have shared

Long may we sing

Spiral upward through the air

Circling the world, oh

Guide us safely through the night (with)

Dreams on the wing

Sending us home, sweet home

And as we all are homeward bound

Long may we sing

Soon enough we'll turn around

Circling the world, oh

May our paths all cross again (with)

Dreams on the wing

Bringing us home, sweet home

Bringing us home, sweet home

Singer's Farewell [Ian Robb](#)

Farewell old friend, it's time to go

You must be on your way

Do not let the parting grieve you so

Though dreary seems the day

And I'll sing Alleluia,
And you'll sing Alleluia,
And we'll all sing Alleluia
When we arrive at home

No saint you were while on this earth

You trod your path so wide

For saints do seldom venture forth

For fear they stray aside. CHO

If God there be some Pharisee

Of unforgiving ways

You must look for him for you must seek

To brighten up his days CHO

And when at Peter's gate you stand

With sins of flesh and wine

One son of his will take your hand

And lead you in to dine CHO

For friends may join and friends may part

And friends be born and die

Each song remains within the heart
Each spirit ever nigh CHO

Song for the Road (Evening's End)

Brendan Nolan (and about 20 other performers) have put music to a beautiful poem by Holmes Hook called "[Song for the Road](#)"

Our evening here has reached the end
The time to part is near
I'm glad our roads they did cross
And came together here
Your welcome it has been so warm
So before you travel on
Raise your glass and raise your voice
And sing a parting song

And if your road is lonely
Even to the end
A song that's well kept in your heart
Will be a steady friend
And if your way is paved with love
Raise your voice in song
And share it with a traveler
Whose road is hard and long

The ways we take from this place
Have many twists and bends
But I've never traveled a road
That didn't have an end
And when I meet some folk like you
I'd like to call my friend
I pray the road will take a turn
And we sing this song again

Now if I find a resting place
Before I'm back this way
Or if the road be just too long
And my step has turned to clay
If from this night you do recall
Just one line from this song
Then even if my road should end
This song will travel on

Our evening here has reached the end
The time to part is near

I'm glad our roads they did cross
And came together here
Your welcome it has been so warm
So, before you travel on
Raise you glass and raise your voice
And sing a parting song

Westering Home

Sung By [Norma Munro](#)

Westering home and a song in the air
Light in the eye and it's goodbye to care
Laughter o' love and a welcoming there
Isle of my heart my own one.

Tell me o' lands of the Orient gay
Speak o' the riches and joys of Cathay
Ay but it's grand to be walkin' at day
To find yourself nearer to Islay.

Where are the folk like the folk o' the west
Canty and couthie and kindly the best
There I would hie me and there I would rest
At hame wi' my ain folk on Islay.

Rolling along through the grey Irish Sea,
Ireland to windward and Man on our lee,
Up on the foredeck it's there that I'll be,
Awaitin' my first glimpse of Islay.

Written in the 1920s by Sir Hugh S. Robertson (1874-1952), a self-taught
choirmaster who founded the Glasgow Orpheus Choir. V3- Troll.

WHY I REFUSE TO SAY GOODBYE

By Fred Maslan (2/28/2016)

We sang songs of freedom, we sang songs of justice
We sang songs of hope and we sang songs of love
We all joined together in one rousing chorus
And that is why, I refuse to say goodbye

I will say au revoir, I will say dosvidanya,
L'hitra'ot and aufweiderzehen,

All of these words in so many languages
Mean I hope to see you soon again

We sang songs of hard times we sang songs of good times
We sang songs of sorrow, we sang songs of joy
We all got together and hugged one another
And that is why, I refuse to say goodbye.

We sang songs in French and we sang songs in Hebrew
We sang songs in Spanish and Russian and more
We all joined together as one human family
And that is why, I refuse to say goodbye.

We sang about rivers we sang of the oceans
We sang about forests and mountains so high
We all live together on one fragile planet
And that is why, I refuse to say goodbye

And some songs are riddles and some songs are parodies
Some songs are silly and some just for fun
We all joined together and shared in the laughter
And that is why, I refuse to say goodbye

Who Will Watch the Home Place

Kate Long <https://youtu.be/r1wb1TAfFMY>

Leaves are falling and turning in showers of gold
As the postman climbs up our long hill
And there's sympathy written all over his face
As he hands me a couple more bills.

Who will watch the home place
Who will tend my heart's dear space
Who will fill my empty place
When I am gone from here?

There's a lovely green knoll by a clear running stream
It was my place when I was quite small
And it's creatures and sounds could soothe my worst pains
But today they don't ease me at all.

In my grandfather's shed there are hundreds of tools
I know them by feel and by name

And like parts of my body they've patched this old place
When I move them they won't be the same.

Now I wander around touching each blessed thing
The chimney, the table, the trees
And my memories swirl 'round me like birds on the wing
When I leave here, oh who will I be?

(Verse)

G G C G / G G D7 D7
G G G C / Am Am D7 D7

(Chorus)

G Am G G / C C Am D7
G Am G C / G D7 G G

Other Ideas

Deep Blue Sea
Rolling Home
Amazing Grace
I'll Fly Away
Farewell My Friends
Jamaica Farewell
Sing Me Back Home
Let the circle be wide
Where's the good in living

Leave her Johnny
Farwell to nova Scotia
May the road rise up with you
Happy are we all together
Light In The Window
May the Road Rise to Meet You
Going Home Song