

# Scouting Resources

## Songbook – 15

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### Scouting Resources

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## Viva! Nuevo Mejico!

There is a land of dusty roads,  
Rattlesnakes and horny toads.  
It never rains, it never snows.  
The wind and sand,  
They say always blows!  
And how we live, God only knows.  
Viva! Neavo Mejico!

## The Old Grey Mare

Oh, the old grey mare,  
She ain't what she used to be,  
Ain't what she used to be,  
Ain't what she used to be,  
Many long years ago.  
Many long years ago,  
Many long years ago,  
Oh, the old grey mare,  
She ain't what she used to be,  
Many long years ago.

## On Top Of Old Smokie

On top of old smokie,  
All covered with snow.  
I lost my true lover,  
From courtin' too slow.  
For courtin's a pleasure,  
And partin's a grief.  
But a false hearted lover,  
Is worse than a thief.  
For a thief he will rob you,  
And turn you to dust.

One girl in a million,  
A poor man can trust.  
Oh, the leaves they will wither,  
The roots they will die.  
Will all be forsaken,  
And never know why.  
Bury me on smokie,  
On smokie so high  
Where the wild birds in heaven,  
Will hear my sad cry.

## One Tin Soldier

Listen children, to a story  
That was written long ago,  
'Bout a kingdom on a mountain  
And a valley fold below.  
On a mountain was a treasure  
Buried deep beneath a stone,  
And the valley people swore  
They'd have it for their very own.

So the people of the valley  
Sent a message up the hill,  
Asking for the buried treasure,  
Tons of gold for which they'd kill.  
Came an answer from the kingdom,  
"With our brothers we will share  
All the secrets of the mountain,  
All the riches buried there."

### Chorus:

Go ahead and hate your neighbor,  
Go ahead and cheat a friend.  
Do it in the name of Heaven,  
You can justify it in the end.  
There won't be any trumpets blowin',  
Come the Judgment Day.

On the bloody morning after,  
One Tin Soldier rides away.

### Chorus1

Now the valley cried with anger,  
"Mount your horses, draw your swords!"  
And they killed the mountain people,  
So they won their just reward.  
Now they stood beside the buried treasure,  
On the mountain, dark and red.  
Turned the stone and looked beneath it,  
"Peace on Earth" was all it said.

## Puff The Magic Dragon

Puff the magic dragon, lived by the sea,  
And frolicked in the autumn mist, in a land called Honnilee.  
Little Jackie Paper, loved that rascal Puff,  
And brought him strings and sealing wax  
And other fancy stuff.

### Chorus:

Oh, Puff the magic dragon, lived by the sea,  
And frolicked in the autumn mist, in a land called Honnilee.

Puff the magic dragon, lived by the sea,  
And frolicked in the autumn mist, in a land called Honnilee.

Together they would travel, on a boat with a billowed sail.  
Jackie kept a lookout, perched on Puff's gigantic tail.  
Noble kings and princes would bow when e'er they came.  
Pirate ships would lower their flag  
When Puff roared out his name

### Chorus

A dragon lives forever, but not so little boys.  
Painted wings and giant strings, make way for other toys.  
One gray night did happen, Jackie Paper came no more,  
And Puff that mighty dragon, he ceased his fearless roar.

### Chorus

His head was bent in sorrow, green scales fell like rain.  
Puff no longer went to play, along the cherry lane.  
Without his lifelong friend, Puff could not be brave.  
So, Puff that mighty dragon, sadly slipped into his cave.

### Chorus

## Red River Valley

From this valley they say you are going.  
We will miss your bright eyes and sweet smile.  
For they say you are taking the sunshine  
That brightens our pathway awhile.  
Come and sit by my side if you love me.  
Do not hasten to bid me adieu;  
But remember the Red River Valley,  
And the cowboy that loved you so true.  
Oh, just think of the valley you are leaving;  
Oh, how lonely and sad it will be;  
And just think of the fond heart you're breaking,  
And the grief you are causing to me.  
I have promised you darling, that never  
Will a word from my lips cause you pain,  
And my love, it shall be yours forever  
If you only will be mine again.  
As you go to your Home by the ocean,  
May you never forget those sweet hours  
That we spent in the Red River Valley  
And the love that was ours 'mid the flowers

## The Riddle Song

I gave my love a cherry that had no stone.  
I gave my love a chicken that had no bone.  
I gave my love a ring that had no end.  
I gave my love a baby with no cryin'.  
How can there be a cherry that has no stone?  
How can there be a chicken that has no bone?  
How can there be a ring that has no end?  
How can there be a baby with no cryin'?'  
A cherry when it's bloomin' has no stone.  
A chicken when it's pippin' has no bone.  
A ring when it's rollin' has no end.  
A baby when it's sleepin' has no cryin'.

## Rocky Mountain High

He was born in the summer of his twenty-seventh year  
Coming home to a place he'd never been before.  
He left yesterday behind him,  
You might say he was born again.  
You might say he found the key to every door.  
When he first came to the mountains, his life was far away  
On the road, and hanging by a song.  
But the string's already broken and he really doesn't care.  
It keeps changing fast and it doesn't last for long.  
But the Colorado Rocky Mountain high,  
I've seen it in the sky.  
The shadow from the starlight is softer than a lullabye.  
Rocky Mountain High, in Colorado.  
Rocky Mountain High, in Colorado.  
He climbed a Cathedral Mountains,  
He saw silver clouds below.  
He saw everthing as far as he could see.  
And they say that he got crazy once  
And tried to touch the sun,  
Ane he lost a friend, but kept his memory.  
Now he walks in quiet solitude, the forest and the stream,  
Seeking grace in every step he takes.  
His sight has turned inside himself to try and understand  
The serenity of a clear blue mountain lake.  
And the Colorado Rocky Mountain High,  
I've seen it rainin' fire in the sky.  
Talk to God and listen to the casual reply.  
Rocky Mountain high in Colorado.  
Now his life is full of wonder,  
But his heart still knows some fear  
Of a simple thing he cannot comprehend.  
Why they try to tear the mountains down  
To bring a couple more,  
More people, more scars upon the land.  
And the Colorado Rocky Mountain High,  
I've seen it rainin' fire in the sky.  
I know he'd be a poorer man if he never saw an eagle fly.  
Rocky Mountain High,  
It's a Colorado Rocky Mountain high.  
I've seen it rainin' fire in the sky.  
Friends around the campfire and everybody's high.  
rocky Mountain High, in Colorado  
Rocky Mountain High.

## Rocky Top

Wish that I was on old Rocky Top,  
Down in the Tennessee hills.  
Ain't no smog on Rocky Top,  
Ain't no telephone bills.

I once met a girl on Rocky Top,  
Half bear, the other half cat  
Wild as a mink, but sweet as soda pop,  
I still dream about that.

### Chorus:

Rocky Top, you'll always be  
Home Sweet Home to me.  
God ol' Rocky Top,  
Rocky Top, Tennessee,  
Rocky Top, Tennessee.

Once two strangers climbed ole Rocky Top,  
Looking for a moonshine still.

## Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Row , row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream;  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream.

## Sentimental Journey

Going to take a sentimental journey  
Going to set my heart at ease,  
Going to take a sentimental journey,  
To renew old memories.

Got my bag, got my reservation,  
Spent every dime, I could afford,  
Like a child in wild anticipation,  
Sentimental journey home.

Seven, that's the time it leaves, at seven,  
I've been heading up to heaven,

Countin' every mile of railfoad track,  
That takes me back.

Never knew my heart could be so yearning,  
Why did I decide to roam?  
Going to take a sentimental journey,  
Sentimental journey home.

Strangers ain't come down from Rocky Top,  
Reckon they never will.

### Chorus

Corn won't grow at all on Rocky Top,  
Dirt's too rocky by far.  
That's why all the folks on Rocky Top  
Drink their corn from a jar.

### Chorus

I've had years of cramped up city life,  
Stuck like a duck in a pen.  
All I know is it's a pity life  
Can't be simple again.

### Chorus

## She'll Be Comin'

She'll be comin' 'round the mountain when she comes  
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain when she comes  
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain when she comes  
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain when she comes  
She'll be comin' 'round the mountain when she comes

She'll be drivin' six white horses when she comes  
She'll be drivin' six white horses when she comes  
She'll be drivin' six white horses when she comes  
She'll be drivin' six white horses when she comes  
She'll be drivin' six white horses when she comes

Oh, we'll all go out to meet her when she comes  
Oh, we'll all go out to meet her when she comes  
Oh, we'll all go out to meet her when she comes  
Oh, we'll all go out to meet her when she comes  
Oh, we'll all go out to meet her when she comes

We'll kill the old red rooster when she comes  
We'll kill the old red rooster when she comes  
We'll kill the old red rooster when she comes  
We'll kill the old red rooster when she comes  
We'll kill the old red rooster when she comes

## Singing In The Rain

Singing in the rain, just singing in the rain  
What a glorious feeling, I'm happy again.

I'm laughing at clouds, so dark above.  
The sun's in my heart and I'm ready for love.

Let the stormy clouds,  
Chase everyone from the place.

Come on with the rain,  
I've a smile on my face.

I'll walk down the lane,  
With a happy refrain.

And singing, just singing in the rain.

## Sixteen Tons

Some people say a man is made out of mud,  
A poor man is made out of muscle and blood,  
Muscle and blood, and skin and bones,  
A mind that's weak and a back that's strong.

### Chorus:

Ya' load sixteen tons and what do you get?  
Another day older and a deeper in debt.  
Saint Peter, don't ya' call me 'cause I can't go,  
I owe my soul to the company store.

I was born one mornin' when the sun didn't shine,

I picked up my shovel and I walked to the mine.  
I loaded sixteen tons of number nine coal,  
An the strawboss hollered, "Well, bless my soul!"

### Chorus

Now when you see me comin', you'd better step  
aside,  
Alot o' men didn't and alot o' men died.  
One fist of iron and the other of steel,  
If the right one don't get then the left one will.

### Chorus

## **Slewfoot**

High on a mountain tell me what do you see?  
Bear tracks, bear tracks looking back at me.  
Better find a ranger boys, before it's too late,  
'Cause that bear's got all our food  
And headin' for the gate.

### **Chorus:**

Well, he's big around the middle  
And he's broad across the rump,  
Runnin' ninety miles and hour

Taking thirty feet a jump.  
He ain't never been caught;  
He ain't never been treed.  
Some folks say, he's a lot like me.

Freeze dried pork chops, crackers, and cheese,  
We put 'em in a bear bag and hung 'em in a tree.  
Looked in the trees and our rations were gone  
Ole Slewfoot's done made himself at home.

### **Chorus**

Well, I got me a ranger and I got me a gun,  
We found ole Slewfoot and got him on the run.  
Chased him up a holler and down in the well,  
We shot him in the bottom just to listen to him yell.

## **The Sound Of Music**

The hills are alive with the sound of music,  
With songs that have been sung for a thousand years.

The hills are alive with the sound of music,  
My heart wants to sing every song it hears.

My heart wants to beat like the wings  
Of the birds that rise from the lake to the trees.

My heart wants to sigh like a chime  
That flies from a church on a breeze,

To laugh like a brook when it trips  
And falls over stones on its way.

To sing through the night like a lark  
Who is learning to pray.

I come to the hills when my heart is lonely,  
I know I will hear what I've heard before.

My heart will be blessed with the sound of music,  
And I'll sing one more.

## Laredo

As I walked out on the streets of Laredo,  
As I walked out in Laredo one day.  
I spied a poor cowboy  
All wrapped in white linen,  
All wrapped in white linen  
As cold as the clay.

Oh, beat the drum slowly,  
And play the fife lowly,  
And play the dead march  
As you carry me along.

Take me to the green valley,  
There place the sod o'er me;

For I'm a young cowboy  
And I know I've done wrong.

### LAREDO

As I walked out,  
On the streets of Laredo,

As I walked out,  
In Laredo one day.

I spied a poor cowboy,  
All wrapped in white linen,

All wrapped in white linen,  
As cold as the clay.

I see by your outfit,  
That your are a cowboy,

These words he did say,  
As I boldly stepped by

Come, sit down beside me,  
And hear my sad story,

I'm shot in the heart,  
And I'm going to die.

Now once in the saddle,  
I used to go dashing.

Yes, once in the saddle,  
I used to be gay.

I'd dress myself up,  
And go to the card-house.

I got myself shot,  
And I'm dying today.

Get six husky cowboys  
To carry my coffin.

Get six lovely maidens  
To sing me a song.

And beat the drum slowly,  
And play the fife lowly,

For I'm a young cowboy  
And I know I've done wrong.

Oh, please go and bring me  
A cup of cold water

To cool my parched lips,  
They are burning, he said.

Before I could get it,  
His soul had departed,

And gone to it's Maker,  
The cowboy was dead.

We, beat the drum slowly,  
And played the fife lowly,

And wept in our grief,  
As we bore him along.

For we all loved the young cowboy,  
So brave and so handsome.

We loved the young cowboy,  
Although he done wrong.

## Wait Till The Sun Shines Nellie

Wait till the sun shines, Nellie  
And the grey skies turn to blue,  
You know I love you, Nellie, 'deed I do.  
We'll face the years together,  
Sweethearts, you and I.  
So won't you wait till the sunshines, Nellie,  
Bye and bye.



## Sweet Betsy From Pike

Did you ever hear tell of sweet Besty for Pike,  
Who crossed the wide prairie with her lover Ike,  
With two yoke of cattle and one spotted hog,  
A tall Shanghai rooster and an old yaller dog?

### Chorus:

Sing too-ral-li-oo-ral-li-oo-ral-li-ay  
Sing too-ral-li-oo-ral-li-oo-ral-li-ay

One evening quite early they camped on the  
Platte,  
'Twas near by the road on a green shady flat,  
Where Betsy, quite tired, lay down to repose,  
While with wonder Ike gazed on his Pike County  
rose.

### Chorus

They swam the wide rivers and crossed the tall  
peaks,  
And camped on the prairie for weeks upon  
weeks;  
Starvation and cholera and hard work and  
slaughter,  
They reached California spite of hell and high  
water

### Chorus

Out on the prairie one bright starry night,  
They broke out the whiskey and Betsy got tight;  
She sang and she shouted and danced o'er the  
plain,  
And made a great show for the whole wagon  
train.

### Chorus

The injun came down in a wild yelling horde,  
And Betsy was skeered they would scalp her  
adored;  
Behind the front wagon wheel Betsy did crawl,  
And fought off the injuns with musket and ball.

### Chorus

They soon reached the desert, where Betsy gave  
out,  
And down in the sand she lay rolling about;  
While Ike in great terror looked on in suprise,  
Saying, "Betsy, get up, you'll get sand in your  
eyes."

### Chorus

The alkai desert was burning and bare,  
And Issac shrank form the death that lurked  
there;

"Dear old Pike County, I'll go back to you."  
Says Betsy, "You'll go by yourself if you do."  
Saying, Good-bye, Pike County, Farewell for a  
while;

I'd go back tonight, if it was but a mile.

### Chorus

Sweet Betsy got up in a great deal of pain,  
And declared she'd go back to Pike County  
again;  
Then Ike heaved a sigh and the fondly embraced,  
And she traveled along with his arm 'round her  
waist.

### Chorus

The wagon tipped over with a terrible crash,  
And out on the prairie rolled all sorts of trash;  
A few little baby clothes done up with care,  
Looked rather supicious - though t'was all on the  
square.

### Chorus

The Sahanghai ran off and the cattle all died,  
The last piece of bacon that morning was fried;  
Poor Ike got discouraged and Betsy got mad,  
The dog wagged his tail and looked wonderfully  
sad.

### Chorus

One morning they climbed up a very high hill,  
And with wonder looked down into Placerville;  
Ike shouted and said as he cast his eyes down,  
"Sweet Betsy, my darling, we've got to  
Hangtown."

### Chorus

Long Ike and sweet Betsy attended a dance,  
Where Ike wore a pair of Pike County pants;  
Sweet Betsy was covered with ribbons and rings,  
Quote Ike, "You're an angle, but where are your  
wings?"

### Chorus

A miner said, "Betsy, will you dance with me?"  
"I will that, old hoss, if you don't make too free.  
But, don't dance me hard, do you want to know  
why?  
Doggone you, I'm choke 'full of strong alkai."

### Chorus

Long Ike and seet Betsy got married of course,  
But Ike getting jealous obtained a divorce;  
And Betsy, well satisfied, said with a shout,  
"Good-bye, you old lummoX, I'm glad you backed  
out."

Saying, Good-bye, dear Issac, Farewell for a  
while;  
But, come back in time, to replenish my pile.

### Chorus

## Tennessee Stud

Along about eighteen-hundred and twenty-five,  
I left Tennessee very much alive,

And I never would have got through the Arkansas  
mud  
If I hadn't been ridin' that Tennessee Stud.

I had some trouble with my sweetheart's Pa,  
And one of here brothers was a bad outlaw.

I sent her a letter by my Uncle Fud,  
Then I rode away on the Tennessee Stud.

### Chorus:

The Tennessee Stud was long and lean,  
The color of the sun and his eyes were green.

He had the nerve and he had the blood,  
And there never was a horse like the Tennessee  
Stud.

We drifted on down into no-man's land,  
We crossed that river called the Rio Grand.

I raced my horse with the Spaniards' folks,  
'Till I got me a skin covered with silver and gold.

### Chorus

Me and a gambler, we couldn't agree,  
We got in a fight over a pair of queens.

We jerked our guns and he fell with a thud,  
And I got away on that Tennessee Stud.

### Chorus

## Today

### Chorus:

Today, while the blossoms still cling to the vine,  
I'll taste your strawberries, I'll drink your sweet wine.

A million tomorrows shall all pass away;  
Ere I forget all the joy that is mine, today.

I'll be a dandy and I'll be a rover.  
You'll know who I am by the songs that I sing.

I'll feast at your table, I'll sleep in your clover.  
Who cares what tomorrow shall bring.

### Chorus

I can't be contented with yesterday's glory.  
I can't live on promises, winter to spring.  
Today is my moment and now is my story.  
I'll laugh and I'll cry and I'll sing.

### Chorus

Well, I got just as lonesome as a man can be,  
A dreaming of my girl in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Stud's green eyes turned blue,  
'Cause he was a dreamin' of a sweetheart too.

### Chorus

We dropped right back across Arkansas,  
I whipped her brother, I whipped her Pa.

When I found that girl with the golden hair,  
She was a ridin' that Tennessee Mare.

### Chorus

Stirrip in stirrip, and side by side,  
We crossed them mountains and the valleys  
wide,

We came to Big Muddy, then we forded a flood,  
On the Tennessee Mare and the Tennessee  
Stud.

### Chorus

There's a pretty little baby on the cabin floor,  
And a little horse colt, laying around the door.

I love that girl with the golden hair,  
And the Tennessee Stud loves the Tennessee  
Mare.

(spoken)  
They's good horses.

### Chorus