

## **My 25 Favorite Campfire songs**

**Traditional songs compiled and performed by Denise Gagné  
Williamson**

## 1. The Camp Song

They say that down in \_\_\_\_\_  
The food is very fine.  
A bun rolled off the table  
And killed a friend of mine!

Oh I don't want to go to (summer/ girl guide/ soccer) camp.  
Gee Ma, I want to go ho-o-ome!

They say that down in \_\_\_\_\_  
The nurse is very fine.  
You ask for some aspirin,  
She gives you turpentine!

They say that down in \_\_\_\_\_  
The doctor's very fine.  
You ask for Dr. Carter,  
They give you Frankenstein.

## 2. Quarter Master's Store

Part 1 (Melody)  
My eyes are dim, I cannot see  
I have not brought my specs with me.  
I have not brought my specs with me!

Part 2 (Harmony)  
My eyes are dim  
I cannot se-e-e  
I have not brought my spectacles with me.

There was \_\_\_\_\_  
In the store, in the store  
There was \_\_\_\_\_  
In the quartermaster's store.

E.g.  
There was gravy, gravy, enough to feed the navy  
There was Jake, Jake, looking at a snake

### 3. Ezekial Saw a Wheel

Ezekial saw a wheel a-turnin'  
Way in the middle of the air.  
A wheel within a wheel a-turnin'  
Way in the middle of the air.  
And the big wheel turned by faith,  
And the little wheel turned by the grace of God.  
Ezekial saw a wheel a-turnin'  
Way in the middle of the air.

Ezekial saw a fire a-burnin'

Ezekial saw a flower a-bloomin'

### 4. Alouette

Alouette, gentil alouette  
Alouette, je te plumerai

Je te plumerai la tête (jet e plumerai la tête)  
Et la tête (et la tête)  
Alouette (alouette)  
Oh!

Je te plumerai le bec, la queue. les pattes, etc.

### 5. Rocka My Soul

Part 1  
Rocka my soul in the bosom of Abraham  
Rocka my soul in the bosom of Abraham  
Rocka my soul in the bosom of Abraham  
Oh, rocka my soul!

Part 2  
So high, you can't get over it,  
So low you can't get under it,  
So wide, you can't get around it,  
Oh, rocka my soul!

Part 3  
Rocka my soul  
Rocka my soul  
Rocka my soul  
Oh! Rocka my soul!

## 6. John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt

John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt  
His name is my name too!  
Whenever we go out,  
The people always shout  
"There goes John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt!"

Nanananananana

## 7. The Seven Story Window

The window, the window,  
The seven story window.  
If you don't watch what you're about,  
We'll throw you out the window!

Verse 1:  
Jack be nimble, Jack be quick,  
Jack jumped over the candle stick.  
Jack be nimble, Jack be quick,  
And we'll throw him out....

Verse 2:  
Mary had a little lamb  
who's fleece was white as snow.  
And everywhere that May went,  
She threw him out.....

Verse 3:  
Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,  
Eating her curds and whey,  
Along came a spider who sat down beside her  
And threw her out....

Insert any other nursery rhyme you like as long as you end the fourth line with the chorus.

## 8. Down by the Bay

Down by the bay, where the watermelons grow,  
Back to my home, I dare not go.  
For if I do, my mother would say

“Have you ever.....  
(seen a moose kissing a goose?)”  
Down by the bay!

1. Have you ever seen a dragon pulling a wagon?
2. Have you ever seen a llama wearing pajamas?
3. Have you ever seen.....

## 9. Michael Row the Boat to Shore

Michael, row the boat to shore, alleluia!  
Michael, row the boat to shore, alleluia!

Sister, help to trim the sails, alleluia!  
Sister, help to trim the sails, alleluia!

The river is deep and the river is wide, alleluia!  
Milk and honey on the other side, alleluia!

Jordan's river is chilly and cold,, alleluia!  
Kills the body, but not the soul, alleluia!

## 10. The Canoe Song

Just a boy and a girl in a little canoe,  
When the moon was shining all around.  
He dipped his paddle in the lake  
It didn't even make a sound.  
Well, they talked and they talked 'til the moon went in,  
Then he said you'll have to kiss me or get out and swim!  
So, you know what to do in a little canoe  
When the moon is shining all a-,  
The moon is shining all a-, the moon is shining all around..  
Get out and swim!  
What the heck! Stay on deck!

## 11. The ship "Titanic"

Oh, they built the ship Titanic to sail the ocean blue,  
And they thought they had a ship that the water wouldn't go through.  
But the good Lord raised his hand  
Said the ship will never land,  
It was sad when the great ship went down.

Chorus

Oh, it was sad, so sad, too bad!  
It was sad when the great ship went down  
To the bottom of the sea-ea-ea-ea  
(Husbands and wives, little children lost their lives)  
It was sad when the great ship went down.

They were 40 miles from shore, when they heard a mighty "ROAR!"  
And the rich refused to associate with the poor.  
So they put them down below  
Where they were the first to go,  
It was sad when the great ship went down.

Chorus

Oh, it was sad, so sad, too bad!  
It was sad when the great ship went down  
To the bottom of the sea-ea-ea-ea  
(Uncles and aunts, little children lost their pants)  
It was sad when the great ship went down.

Oh, the moral of this story is very clear to see.  
Always wear a life preserver when you go out to sea!  
So if your ship goes down,  
You will never, ever drown,  
It was sad when the great ship went down.

Chorus

Oh, it was sad, so sad, too bad!  
It was sad when the great ship went down  
To the bottom of the sea-ea-ea-ea  
(Husbands and wives, little children lost their lives)  
It was sad when the great ship went down.  
Ker-plunk! It sunk! What a rotten piece of junk!

## 12. Land of the Silver Birch

1. Land of the silver birch, home of the beaver,  
Where still the mighty moose wanders at will.

Refrain:

Blue sky and rocky shore, I will return once more,  
Boom diddy bum, bum, boom diddy bam, bum  
Boom diddy bam, bum, bam.

2. Down in the forest, deep in the lowlands,  
My heart cries out fro thee, hills of the north.

3. High on a rocky ledge I'll build my wigwam,  
Close by the water's edge, silent and still.

## 13. My Paddle

My paddle's keen and bright,  
Flashing with silver.  
Follow the wild goose flight,  
Dip, dip and swing.

Dip, dip and swing it back,  
Flashing with silver.  
Follow the wild goose flight  
Dip, dip and swing.

(This song was written by Margaret Embers McGee in 1918)

## 14. Row, Row, Row Your Boat

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

Canon, 2 voice, 3 voice

## 15. My Bonnie

My Bonnie lies over the ocean,  
My Bonnie lies over the sea,  
My Bonnie lies over the ocean,  
Oh bring back my Bonnie to me!

Bring back, bring back,  
Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me, to me.  
Bring back, bring back,  
Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me!

## 16. Lion Hunting

I'm going lion hunting

I'm not afraid!

I've got my trusty gun

And my bullets by my side.

Oh! Oh! *Oh! Oh!*  
What do I see? *What do I see?*  
I see a big lake. *I see a big lake.*  
Can't get around it. *Can't get around it.*  
Gotta swim through it. *C'mon guys, let's swim!*  
Phew!

I see  
2. tall trees  
3. short grass  
4. long grass

Oh! Oh! *Oh! Oh!*

What do I see? *What do I see?*  
I see a big, black cave. *I see a big, black cave.*  
Oh boy, it's so dark, I can't see a thing in here! I'm going to light a match.  
Aaahhh!!

## **17. Do Your Ears Hang Low?**

Do your ears hang low?  
Do they wobble to and fro?  
Can you tie them in a knot?  
Can you tie them in a bow?  
Can you throw them over your shoulder,  
Like a continental soldier?  
Do your ears hang low?

Second (third/fourth) verse, same as the first,  
A little bit faster and a little bit worse!

## **18. I'm a Little Piece of Tin**

I'm a little piece of tin,  
Nobody knows where I have been.  
Got four wheels and a running board.  
I'm a Ford, oh! I'm a Ford!

Honk, honk, rattle, rattle, crash, beep-beep  
Honk, honk, rattle, rattle, crash, beep-beep  
Honk, Honk.

## **19. In a Cabin in a Wood**

In a cabin in a wood,  
A little old man by the window stood.  
Saw a rabbit hopping by,  
Knocking at his door.  
"Help me! Help me! Sir" he said,  
"Or the hunter will shoot me dead!"  
"Come little rabbit, come with me,  
Happy we will be."

## 20. Picture a Cyclist (Picture a Cowboy)

Picture a cyclist, all dressed in red.  
Fell off his bike seat, bashed in his head  
Blood on the bike seat, blood on the ground,  
Great, big gobs of blood all around.

Second (third/fourth) verse same as the first,  
A little bit louder and a little bit worse!

## 21. He's Got the Whole World

He's got the whole world, in his hands.  
He's got the whole, wide world, in his hands.  
He's got the whole world, in his hands.  
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got -----, in his hands.

1. You and me, brother.
2. You and me, sister.
3. The itty, bitty babies.
4. The birds and the bees.
5. The grass and the trees.
6. All of God's children

## 22. Swing Low Sweet Chariot

Refrain:

Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
Coming for to carry me home.

I look over yonder and what do I see?  
Comin' for to carry me home.  
A band of angels, comin' after me.  
Coming for to carry me home.

If you get there before I do,  
Tell my friends I'll be comin' there too.

### **23. This Little Light of Mine**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

I'm gonna bring my light to the world, I'm gonna let it shine. (3X)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### **24. Kum Ba Yah**

1. Kum-ba-ya, my Lord, kum-ba-ya.  
Kum-ba-ya, my Lord, kum-ba-ya.  
Kum-ba-ya, my Lord, kum-ba-ya.  
Oh Lord, Kum bay a.

2. Someone's crying, Lord, Kum-ba-ya

3. Someone's sleeping, Lord, Kum-ba-ya

4. Someone's praying, Lord, Kum-ba-ya

### **25. Day is Done**

Day is done,  
Gone the sun,  
From the lakes, from the hills, from the sky.  
All is well,  
Safe thee rest,  
God is nigh.