



Five English Folk Songs

No. 5

Wassail Song

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872-1958)

Wassail, Wassail, all over the town,
Our bread it is white and our ale it is brown;
Our bowl it is made of the green maple tree;
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right eye,
Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie,
A good Christmas pie as e'er I did see,
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right horn,
Pray God send our master a good crop of corn,
A good crop of corn as e'er I did see,
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his long tail,
Pray God send our master a good cask of ale,
A good cask of ale as e'er I did see,
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Come, butler, come fill us a bowl of the best;
Then I pray that your soul in heaven may rest;
But if you do bring us a bowl of the small,
May the Devil take butler, bowl and all!

Then here's to the maid in the lily white smock,
Who tripped to the door and slipped back the lock;
Who tripped to the door and pulled back the pin,
For to let these jolly Wassailers walk in.

Traditional

Wassail Song

rvw

Vivace ♩ = 168

S
A
T
B

Was - sail, _____

Was - sail, _____

Was - sail, _____

Was - sail, _____

6
S
A
T
B

Was - sail, _____

Was - sail, _____

Was - sail, Was - sail all

Was - sail, _____



Wassail Song

11

S Was - sail, *pp* Was - sail, *pp*

A Was - sail, *pp* Was - sail, *pp*

T o - ver the town, Our bread it is white and our ale it is

B Was - sail, *pp*

16

S sail, *pp* Was - sail, *pp*

A Was - sail, *pp*

T brown; Our bowl it is made of the green ma - ple

B Was - sail, *pp*

20

S sail, *pp* Was - sail, *pp* we'll

A Was - sail, *pp* we'll

T tree; In the Was - sail bowl we'll drink un - to

B Was - sail, *pp*

Wassail Song

24

S drink un - to thee. Here's a *mp grazioso*

A drink un - to thee. Here's a *mp grazioso*

T thee. *mp* Was - sail,

B *mp* Was - sail,

28

S health to the ox and to his right eye, Pray

A health to the ox and to his right eye, Pray

T

B *pp* Was - sail,

32

S God send our mas - ter a good Christ - mas pie, A

A God send our mas - ter a good Christ - mas pie, A

T *pp* Was - sail,

B *pp* Was - sail,

Wassail Song

36

S good Christ - mas pie as e'er I did see, In the

A good Christ - mas pie as e'er I did see, In the

T

B Was -

Was - sail, Was -

pp

40

S Was - sail bowl we'll drink un - to thee.

A Was - sail bowl we'll drink un - to thee.

T sail, Was - sail, Here's a health to the

B sail. Here's a health to the

mf grazioso

mf grazioso

44

S

A Was - sail,

T ox and to his right horn, Pray God send our

B ox and to his right horn, Pray God send our

p

Wassail Song

48

S *p* Was - sail,

A

T mas - ter a good crop of corn, A good crop of

B mas - ter a good crop of corn, A good crop of

52

S Was - sail

A Was - sail all

T corn as e'er I did see, In the Was - sail

B corn as e'er I did see, In the Was - sail

56

S sail all o - ver the town, *poco f* In the Was - sail

A o - ver the town, *poco f* In the Was - sail

T bowl we'll drink un - to thee. *poco f* Was - sail, Was -

B bowl we'll drink un - to thee. *poco f* Was - sail,

Wassail Song

60

S bowl we'll drink un - to thee.

A bowl we'll drink un - to thee.

T sail. Here's a health to the ox and

B Was - sail. Here's a health to the ox and

64

S Was - sail all o - ver the

A Was - sail all o - ver the

T to his long tail,

B to his long tail,

68

S town. Was -

A town. Was -

T Pray God send our mas - ter a good cask of

B Pray God send our mas - ter a good cask of

Wassail Song

72

S sail all o - ver the town. Was - sail, Was -

A sail all o - ver the town. Was - sail, Was -

T ale, A good cask of ale as

B ale, A good cask of ale as

77

S sail, Was - sail, we'll

A sail, Was - sail, In the Was - sail bowl we'll

T e'er I did see, In the Was - sail bowl we'll

B e'er I did see, In the Was - sail bowl

81

S drink un - to thee, we'll drink un - to thee. Come, *ff*

A drink un - to thee, un - to thee. Come, *ff*

T drink un - to thee, un - to thee. Come, *ff*

B we'll drink, we'll drink un - to thee. Come, *ff*

Wassail Song

86

S but - ler, come fill us a bowl of the best; _____ Then I

A but - ler, come fill us a bowl of the best; Then I

T but - ler, come fill us a bowl of the best; _____ Then I

B but - ler, come fill ___ us a bowl of the best; Then I

90

S pray that your soul _____ in heav'n _____ may rest; But

A pray that your soul in heav'n _____ may rest; But ___

T pray that your soul in _____ heav'n _____ may rest; _____ But ___

B pray that your soul in _____ heav'n _____ may rest; But ___

94

S if ___ you ___ do ___ bring us a ___ bowl of the small, May the

A if you do bring us a bowl of the small, May the

T if you do bring us a bowl of the small, _____ May the

B if you do bring us a bowl ___ of the small, May the

Wassail Song

98

S Dev - il take but - ler, bowl___ and all! Then here's to the

A Dev - il take but - ler, bowl___ and all! Then here's to the

T Dev - il take but - ler, bowl___ and all! Then here's to the

B Dev - il take but - ler, bowl___ and all! Then here's to the

103

S maid in the lil - y white smock, Who tripp'd to the door___ and

A maid___ in the lil - y white smock, Who tripp'd to the door and

T maid___ in the lil - y white smock, Who tripp'd to the door and__

B maid in the lil - y white smock, Who tripp'd to the door and__

108

S slipp'd back___ the lock; Who tripp'd to___ the___ door and__

A slipp'd back the___ lock; Who tripp'd to the door and

T slipp'd back___ the lock;___ Who tripp'd to___ the___ door and__

B slipp'd back the lock; Who tripp'd to the door and

Wassail Song

112

S pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was -

A pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was -

T pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was -

B pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was -

116

S sail - ers walk in, Who tripp'd to the door,

A sail - - - ers walk in, and

T sail - - - ers walk in, and

B sail - - - ers walk in, and

120

S For to let these jol - ly Was - sail - ers walk

A pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was - sail - ers walk

T pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - ly Was - sail - ers, these

B pull'd back the pin, For to let these jol - - - ly Was -

Wassail Song

125

S in. Was - sail, Was -

A in, these jol - ly Was - sail - ers walk

T jol - ly Was - sail - ers, these jol - ly Was - sail - ers walk

B sail - ers walk in.

129

S sail, Was - sail all o - - - ver the

A in. Was - sail all o - - - ver the

T in. Was - sail, Was - sail, Was -

B Was - sail, Was - sail all o - - -

133

S town, Was - sail, Was -

A From all o - ver the town, all o - ver the

T sail, Was - sail all o - ver the town, Was -

B ver the town, Was - sail, Was -

Wassail Song

137

S
sail all o - ver the town, *fff* Was -
town, all

A
sail all o - ver the town, *fff* Was -

T
sail all o - ver the town, *fff* Was -

B
sail all o - ver the town, *fff* Was -

141

S
sail, _____

A
sail, _____ Was - sail, _____

T
sail, _____ Was - sail, _____ Was - sail, Was -
fff *p cantabile*

B
sail, _____ Was - sail, _____ Was - sail, _____
fff *p*

147

S
Was - sail, Was - sail all
pp

A
Was - sail all o - ver the town, all
pp

T
sail all o - ver the town, Was -
pp *pp*

B
Was - sail all o - ver the town;
pp

Wassail Song

152

S o - ver the town, all o - ver the town;

A o - ver the town, all o - ver the town;

T sail, Was - sail, Was -

B Was - sail, Was - sail,

156

S Was - sail.

A Was - sail.

T sail.

B Was - sail.

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