

WALTZING MATILDA

choreo: Christine Read

Music: performed by The Seekers

PART A. VERSE Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong .... etc

V hold  $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & sw & sw \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & sw & sw \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \leftarrow & \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ sw & sw \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \updownarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ \updownarrow \\ rkf & rkb \end{matrix}$   
 arms to W      arms to V      arms swing loosely

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & f & xf & rep & s \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} \\ tch \end{matrix}$

PART B. CHORUS.

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \leftarrow & \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & f & xf & rep & s \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ xf & rep \end{matrix}$

Who'll come a waltzing matilda my darling

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & f & xf & rep & s \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} \\ tch \end{matrix}$

Who'll come a waltzing matilda with me

$\begin{matrix} \leftarrow & \leftarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ sw & sw \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \updownarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ \updownarrow \\ rkf & rkb \end{matrix}$

And he sang and he watched  
as he waited til his billy boiled

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \leftarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} & \underline{R} & \underline{L} \\ f & f & f & xf & rep & s \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \\ \underline{R} \\ tch \end{matrix}$

Who'll come a waltzing matilda with me

At the end, with the whistling, Repeat A, then go walkabout (perhaps to see if the billy is on for tea, if this is the last dance before the break)

"Waltzing Matilda" is Australia's most widely known bush ballad, and has been described as the country's "unofficial national anthem".

The title was Australian slang for travelling on foot (waltzing, derived from the German *auf der Walz*) with one's belongings in a "matilda" (swag) slung over one's back. The song narrates the story of an itinerant worker, or "swagman", making a drink of tea at a bush camp and capturing a jumbuck (sheep) to eat. When the sheep's owner, a squatter, arrives with three police officers to arrest the worker for the theft, the swagman commits suicide by drowning himself in a nearby billabong (watering hole), after which his ghost haunts the site.

The original lyrics were written in 1895 by Australian poet Banjo Paterson, and were first published as sheet music in 1903.