Shenandoah



- Oh, Shenandoah, I long to hear you, Away, you rolling river.
 Shenandoah, I long to hear you. Away, we're bound away 'Cross the wide Missouri.
- 2. The old Mizzoo, she's a mighty river, The Indians camp along her borders.
- 3. The white man loved an Indian maiden, With notions his canoe was laden.
- 4. O Shenandoah, I love your daughter. For her I've crossed the rolling water.

- 5. The chief disdained the trader's dollars "My daughter never shall you follow."
- At last there came a Yankee skipper. He winked his eye, and he tipped his flipper.
- He sold the chief that fire-water, And 'cross the river he stole his daughter.
- 8. Farewell, my dear, I'm bound to leave you, O Shenandoah, I'll not deceive you.

"Oh Shenandoah" (also called simply "Shenandoah" or "Across the Wide Missouri") is a traditional American folk song of uncertain origin, dating to the early 19th century. The song appears to have originated with Canadian and American voyageurs or fur traders traveling down the Missouri River in canoes, and has developed several different sets of lyrics. Some lyrics refer to the American Indian chief Shenandoah and a canoe-going trader who wants to marry his daughter. By the mid-1800s versions of the song had become a sea shanty heard or sung by sailors in various parts of the world.

The song is number 324 in the Roud **Folk Song Index**.

It was recorded by Harry Belafonte, Liam Clancy, Paul Clayton, The Kingston Trio, Pete Seeger, Burl Ives and many others.

I learned it from The Kingston Trio and The Burl Ives Songbook.