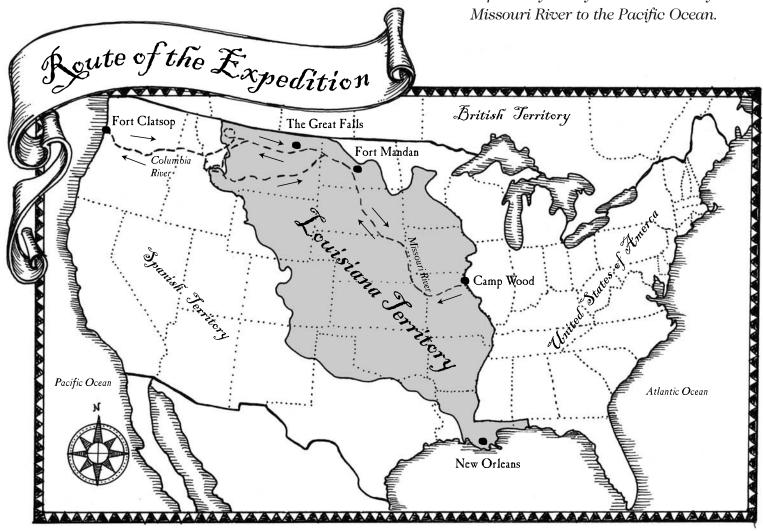
From the Journals of...

President Thomas Jefferson wrote to Meriwether Lewis about the expedition:

The Object of your mission is to explore the Missouri river & such principal stream of it as by it's course and communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Tolumbia, Oregon, Tolorado or any other river may offer the most direct & practicable water communication across this continent for the purpose of commerce.

The Vision

- ▼ The recent Louisiana Purchase (1803)
 allowed Americans to explore lands
 west of the Mississippi River.
- W A successful expedition beyond the Louisiana Purchase would help the United States lay claim to lands west of the Rocky Mountains.
- President Thomas Jefferson wished to extend a peaceful gesture to the Indians living in the western lands.
- W A water passage from the East to the West was important for America's commercial interests.
- A scientific mission was necessary to discover and catalogue unknown Indian tribes, languages, plants, animals, and geographical features of North America.
- The desire was to map the unknown expanse of land from the mouth of the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean.

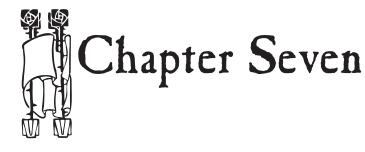


Cruzatte's Fiddle



Song of Sacagawea





The trail over the rough mountain terrain was the most difficult part of the entire expedition. Freezing temperatures, little food, and obscured trails were disheartening. Also, at the top of each mountain pass, there seemed to be an endless view of more snow-capped mountains to overcome. Lewis and Clark knew their only hope was to find the Nez Percé Indians. The members of the expedition, however, became very ill when they ate the berries and salmon that the Nez Percé provided. The explorers were quite helpless and at the mercy of the Nez Percé, but the Indians were kind and aided them in preparing for the next part of their journey.

After weeks of crossing the mountains, the expedition once again traveled on water, sailing the smaller rivers that flowed into the Columbia River. They moved downstream quickly, with the help of the current, until reaching the mighty Columbia River. The Indians along the river possessed items such as beads, copper trinkets, and copper kettles, which were all signs of contact with white traders.

The explorers faced a new challenge when they decided to ride dangerous rapids at one stretch of the Columbia River. Despite the warnings of the local Indians, they succeeded. At last, after a two-year adventure, the Corps of Discovery finally reached the Pacific Ocean!





Musical Map for Columbia River Waltz

Form: ABA

- \mathbb{V} A (mm. 1–16): This section is clearly in F major.
- W B (mm. 16–33): Shifting from one key to another, the B section ends on a C^7 chord, the dominant of F major, to return to the A section.
- \mathbb{V} A (mm. 1–16): This section is repeated to give the piece a conclusive ending.

Interpretation

- W Let the melody flow lightly and effortlessly.
- ▼ Play the left-hand accompaniment smoothly and confidently, always softer than the right-hand melody.
- ▼ Focus on the increased motion in the left hand at mm. 7–8, 14–15, 24–25 and 32–33, and practice until comfortable.

From the Journals of...

William Clark relates his concerns about the rapids of the Columbia River:

... we Should pass the next falls, which we were told was verry bad... the only danger in passing thro those narrows was the whorls and Swills arriseing from the Compression of the water...

Columbia River Waltz

