

# American Folk Songs

## *for Solo Singers*

13 Folk Songs Arranged For Solo Voice and Piano  
For Recitals, Concerts, and Contests

ARRANGED BY JAY ALTHOUSE

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Sally K. Albrecht, Piano • Kent Heckman, Engineer

Piano accompaniments were recorded by Sally K. Albrecht at Red Rock Recording in Saylorsburg, PA.



Cover Art: *Evening of Fall, 2009*

by Debbie "Mama" Criswell (b. 1967)

Acrylic on canvas (12" X 16")

From the collection of Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht

About the cover: Debbie "Mama" Criswell is a self-taught artist, currently living in Clinton, Tennessee. She is the single mother of two girls and a boy, and has been a professional artist since 2003. She was inspired by the rolling hills, tall farm houses, and Amish families she observed while living in a small Missouri town. Debbie is primarily known for the primitive folk style of her paintings, but also dabbles in abstracts. Her works have been sold throughout the world, and are currently available on eBay and in galleries throughout the United States.



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## 4. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

Quaker Song  
Arranged by JAY ALTHOUSE

Gently (♩ = ca. 72)

*mp* My

6

life flows on in end-less song, a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion.\_\_\_\_\_ I

10

hear the real though far off song that hails a new cre - a - tion.\_\_\_\_\_ Through

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# 13. THE WATER IS WIDE

American Folk Song  
Arranged by JAY ALTHOUSE

In a flowing manner (♩ = ca. 88)

*mp*

The wa-ter is

**5**

wide, \_\_\_\_\_ I can-not cross o'er. But nei-ther have

**9**

I \_\_\_\_\_ the wings to \_\_\_\_\_ fly. Build me a

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'In a flowing manner (♩ = ca. 88)'. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of eighth notes in the right hand and half notes in the left hand. The vocal line begins with a rest for four measures, then enters with the lyrics 'The wa-ter is'. At measure 5, marked with a box containing the number 5, the vocal line continues with 'wide, \_\_\_\_\_ I can-not cross o'er. But nei-ther have'. The vocal line has a long melisma over the word 'wide'. At measure 9, marked with a box containing the number 9, the vocal line continues with 'I \_\_\_\_\_ the wings to \_\_\_\_\_ fly. Build me a'. The vocal line has another long melisma over the word 'I'. The piano accompaniment continues throughout, providing a harmonic and rhythmic foundation for the vocal melody.

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