

THREE FOLK SONG ARRANGEMENTS

SSA Unaccompanied

1. THE WATER IS WIDE
2. THE ASH GROVE
3. SIMPLE GIFTS

Martin Chambers
(2012)
Revised 2017

The song was originally titled **O Waly, Waly**, but in the 19th century it came to be known as **The Water is Wide**. The song was first published in 1724.

The **Water Is Wide** is a [folk song](#) of Scottish ancestry with certain English influences based on a composite of lyrics many of which date to the 1600s.

This song also became popular in Appalachian America in the late 19th century.

“Waly “ is an expression of grief, woe.

THE WATER IS WIDE

Arranged by
Martin Chambers
b. 1944

Moderato

Musical score for the first system, including Solo Female, Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto, and Piano for rehearsal only. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *mp*. The lyrics "The" are visible under the Soprano I part.

Musical score for the second system, including F. Solo, Sop I, Sop II, Alto, and Pno. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. The lyrics "wat - er is wide, I can - not get o'er, and neith - er have" are visible under the F. Solo part.

8

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

I wings to fly. Give me a boat that will carry

12

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

two, and both shall row, my love and I. *p*

16 *f*

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

mf

mf a:

a:

A ship there is

20

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

and she sails the sea. She's load - ed deep, as deep can

24

F. Solo

be; but not so deep as the love I'm in. I

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

a: a:

Pno

28

F. Solo

know not if I sink or swim.

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

u: u: u:

Pno

32 *f*
F. Solo I leaned my back _____ up a - gainst some

32 *mf*
Sop I

mf a:
Sop II

mf a:
Alto

a: - - - - -

mf
Pno

36
F. Solo oak, think - ing _____ he _____ was a trust - y _____ tree; but

36
Sop I

a: -
Sop II

a: -
Alto

a: -
Pno

40

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

first he bend - ed and then he broke, and so did my

a: -

a: -

a: -

slower

44

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

false love to me.

u: -

u: -

u: -

slower

48

F. Solo

Sop I *a tempo f*

Sop II *a tempo*

Alto *a tempo f*

Pno *a tempo*

O love is hand some and love is kind, and

52

F. Solo

Sop I *suddenly slower mp*

Sop II *suddenly slower mp*

Alto *suddenly slower mp*

Pno *suddenly slower mp*

love's a jew'l while it is new; but when it is old,

56

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

deliberate

slowly

it grow - eth cold, and fades a - way like morn - ing

it grow - eth cold, and fades a - way like morn - ing

it grow - eth cold, and fades a - way like morn - ing

60

F. Solo

Sop I

Sop II

Alto

Pno

fade away

ppp

dew. u: *ppp*

dew. u: *ppp*

dew. u: dew. *ppp*

fade away

ppp