

# Ballad of the Merry Ferry

words by Emma Rounds

music by John Dwyer

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The following little ditty evokes a much different picture of ferry travel than one would suppose from the colorful brochures of the Washington State Ferry System. Anyone who has waited eight hours in line on a hot Sunday in August to board a ferry home from a San Juan Island weekend may have another verse to add to this song! John Dwyer put the music to this little poem by Emma Rounds which appeared in Rainbow in the Sky edited by Louis Untermeyer (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., New York, New York: 1935).

with a lift *C*

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef, 3/4 time. It begins with a treble clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a cursive, handwritten style. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score consists of seven lines of music. The first line starts with a treble clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp. The second line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The third line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The fourth line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The fifth line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The sixth line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The seventh line has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Sing hey, and sing ho, and sing down-a-down  
derry, Oh, what is so merry as missing a ferry?  
A nice win-try morning so jolly and freez'ing, A  
dear little cold keeps you cough'ing and sneez'ing, And  
every-one mirthful and hap-py and gay, As we  
all watch the ferry go puffing a-way. Sing

hey, and sing ho, and sing down-a-down-  
der-ry, Oh what is so merry as mus-sing a ferry!

