

OH SHENANDOAH

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you, away you rolling river.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you.

Away, I'm bound away, across the wide Missouri.

Oh Shenandoah, I love your daughter, away you rolling river.

For her I'd cross your foaming waters.

Away, I'm bound away, across the wide Missouri.

'Tis seven long years since last I saw you and hear your rolling river.

'Tis seven years since I last saw you.

Away, I'm bound away, across the wide Missouri.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you, away you rolling river.

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you.

Away, I'm bound away, across the wide Missouri.

Per Wikipedia, this 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 fur traders traveling down the Missouri River in canoes. Until the 19th century only adventurers who sought their fortunes as trappers and traders of beaver fur ventured as far west as the Missouri River. The canoe-going fur-traders were great singers, and songs were an important part of their culture. Flatboatmen who plied the Missouri River in the early 19th century were also known for their shanties, including "Oh Shenandoah".