

# Brighten The Day

## songs to celebrate the seasons



### a collection of songs for children

### Marty Layne, voice and guitar

#### Spring:

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 1. Sing a Song of Spring *                                     | 2:04 |
| 2. I Can't See The Wind *                                      | 1:52 |
| 3. Medley: Little April Shower/<br>I Hear Thunder/It's Raining | 2:44 |
| 4. The Winter Now Is Over                                      | 1:18 |
| 5. A Happy Goodmorning *                                       | 1:30 |

#### Summer:

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 6. Over the Meadows                                   | 1:23 |
| 7. Off to the Sea *                                   | 2:10 |
| 8. Silver Sands *                                     | 1:10 |
| 9. Three Little Puffins *                             | 1:24 |
| 10. Medley: Oh Moon, Oh Moon/<br>The Stars Are Hiding | 2:10 |
| 11. Tadpoles and Salamanders                          | 2:58 |
| 12. Trot Along My Little Pony*                        | 2:08 |

#### Autumn:

- |                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| 13. Out In the Meadows  | 1:42 |
| 14. Wind, Wind, Blowing | 3:42 |
| 15. Come Little Leaves  | 1:20 |
| 16. Hurry, Hurry, Hurry | 2:39 |

#### Winter:

- |                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 17. Winter Fun *              | 1:55 |
| 18. Icicles *                 | 1:07 |
| 19. Little Snowflake *        | 0:52 |
| 20. Winter-Walk *             | 1:59 |
| 21. Where Are the Froggies? * | 3:17 |

Recorded at the Electric Cafe, Victoria, BC

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Thanks to my husband, Larry, and my children, Josh, Noah, Robin, and Holly, for their encouragement, support, and help with this recording. Cover painting and design, tray photo, pony and tree drawings: Noah Layne Other drawings: Holly and Noah Layne. Songs marked with an \* are from *Sing Through The Seasons* by permission of Plough Publishing House, Farmington, PA, USA

# Spring

## Sing a Song of Spring

Words: E. Moller Music: F.W. Moller

When the green buds show  
And the March winds blow,  
And the birds all call  
Across the meadow,  
Gay as bird on wing,  
We'll go wandering  
Sing a song of spring  
The wide world over.

*Chorus:*

*Tra la la la la la la  
Tra la la la la la la,  
Tra la la la la la la,  
The wide world over.*

Warm will shine the sun,  
Far from home we'll run,  
Greeting everyone  
So kind and friendly.  
As we go we'll sing,  
Tell the world it's Spring,  
Make sweet echoes ring  
The wide world over.

*Chorus:*

*Tra la la la la la la  
Tra la la la la la la,  
Tra la la la la la la,  
The wide world over.*



## I Can't See the Wind

Words: I. Eastwick Music: M. Swinger

I can't see the Wind,  
But the Wind can see me.  
It follows me dancing across Lantern-lea.  
It blows 'round my ankles.  
It puffs through my hair.

It tangles me up 'till I do not know where  
Or whither or thither or why I'm this way,  
The way of the Wind  
On a merry March day

Medley:

### Little April Shower

Words: L. Morey Music: F. Churchill

Drip, drip, drip, little April shower,  
Beating a tune ev'rywhere that you fall.  
Drip, drip, drip, little April shower,  
We're getting wet and we don't care at all.  
Drip! Drop ! Drip ! Drop!  
We're getting wet and we don't care at all.

### I Hear Thunder

I hear thunder. I hear thunder.  
Hark, don't you. Hark, don't you.  
Pitter patter raindrop, Pitter patter rain-  
drop  
I'm wet through; so are you!  
(From *This Little Puffin*)

### It's Raining

Dutch folk song

It's raining, it's raining,  
The roofs are getting wet.  
The rain will make the flowers bloom.  
The mud we'll sweep out with a broom.  
It's raining, it's raining,  
The roofs are getting wet.



## The Winter Now Is Over

Italian/Swiss folk song

The winter now is over,  
And April rains are past:  
I know I heard this morning  
The cuckoo's song at last.

*Chorus:*

*Cuckoo! Cuckoo!*

*Oh, can't you hear it too?*

*I know I heard this morning*

*The cuckoo's song at last.*

The sun on ev'ry mountain  
Has melted winter's snow;  
The birds sing in the tree tops  
The cuckoo's song they know.

*Chorus*

## A Happy Goodmorning

Words: I. Eastwick Music: M. Swinger

It is a happy morning  
There is blossom on the trees  
There's a merry robin singing  
There's a golden flight of bees.  
There's a single dewdrop clinging  
Like a rainbow to a rose  
And the sun is busy shedding  
Little freckles on my nose.  
Oh, it is a happy morning  
There is joy in ev'rything  
Such a good and happy morning  
That I've simply got to sing!

## Summer

### Over the Meadows

Czech folk tune

Over the meadows green and wide,  
Blooming in the sunlight  
Blooming in the sunlight,  
Over the meadows green and wide  
Off we go a roaming side by side

*Chorus:*

*Streamlets down mountains go*

*Pure from the winters snow,*

*Joining they swiftly go,*

*Singing of life so free.*

*Streamlets down mountains go*

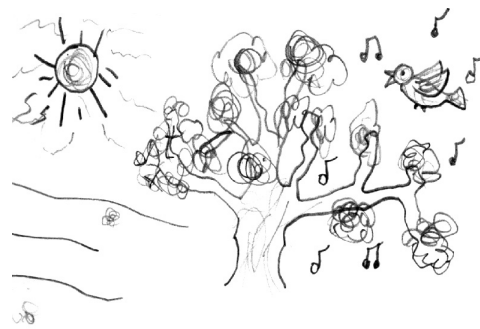
*Pure from the winters snow,*

*Joining they swiftly go,*

*Calling to me!*

Sweet is the air with new mown hay  
Cooling in the twilight,  
Cooling in the twilight,  
Sweet is the air with new mown hay,  
As we homeward go at close of day.

*Chorus*



### **Off to the Sea**

Words/Music: K. Barth

We are off, we are off  
To the sea, to the sea,  
To the rolling rocking sea!  
Let us speed along the way,  
We must reach the coast today,  
And there should be no delay!  
For we are going to the sea finally,  
With happy song and jollity!

We are off, we are off,  
To the sea, to the sea,  
To the rolling rocking sea!  
If the sky is overcast  
If the rain beats down so fast,  
Yet the sun comes out at last!  
For we are going to the sea finally,  
With happy song and jollity!

We are off, we are off,  
To the sea, to the sea,  
To the rolling rocking sea!  
Our jalopy dashes on,  
Watch the road and don't go wrong,  
Step on the gas and sing a song!  
For we are going to the sea finally,  
With happy song and jollity!

We are off, we are off,  
To the sea, to the sea,  
To the rolling rocking sea!  
Just a mile and 'round the bend,  
Here our journey has an end,  
For the sea, the sea, my friend!  
For we have reached the rolling sea finally,  
With happy song and jollity!

### **On Silver Sands**

Words: I. Eastwick Music: M. Swinger

Come for a run by the silver sea,  
Come in the sunlight with me, with me.  
The sands are silver beneath the sky –  
More silver above them the seabirds fly.  
Let us go running away together  
All in the spray-flying,  
Wind-sighing weather.

### **Three Little Puffins**

Words: E. Farjeon Music: M. Swinger

Three little puffins  
Were partial to muffins,  
As partial as partial can be.  
They wouldn't eat nuffin  
But hot buttered muffin  
For breakfast and dinner and tea.  
Pantin' and puffin'  
And chewin' and chuffin'  
They just went on stuffin', dear me!  
Till the three little puffins  
Were chockful of muffins  
And puffy as puffy can be,  
All three  
Were puffy as puffy can be.

### **Medley:**

#### **Oh Moon, Oh Moon**

Oh moon, oh moon  
You're out too soon  
The sun is still in the sky.  
Go back to bed  
And rest your head  
Until the day goes by.



#### **The Stars Are Hiding**

Words /Music: Malvina Reynolds

The stars are hiding all the day,  
The stars are hiding all the day,  
The stars are hiding all the day,  
The sun is shining them away.  
Orion and the Lion,  
They are hiding all the day.

The stars are shining all the night,  
The stars are shining all the night,  
The stars are shining all the night,  
The sun is shining out of sight.  
Orion and the Lion,  
They are shining all the night.

## **Tadpoles and Salamanders**

Words/Music: Marcia Berman

*Chorus:*

*Tadpoles and salamanders  
Crayfish and minnows  
Whirligigs and water boatmen  
Dance all around  
(repeat)*

I like to go down to the creek  
I sit on a rock and look into the deep

*Chorus*

I like to go down to the creek  
A little frog, eyes in the deep

*Chorus*

Red and green, purple and blue  
Dragonflies and damselflies, too

*Chorus*

Water striders skate on the water  
Yellow leaves come tumbling down

*Chorus*



## **Trot Along My Little Pony**

Words/Music: Marlys Swinger

Trot along my little pony, Trot along my dapple-gray;  
There's a warm stable waiting Filled with sweet-smellin' hay.  
We've been ridin', we've been ropin' We've been on the range all day;  
Trot along, my little pony, Trot along, my dapple-gray.

We started off at sunrise, We never stopped to rest,  
And now the sun has slipped behind The mountains in the west.  
Travel on to your stable With its sweet smellin' hay;  
Trot along my little pony, Trot along my dapple-gray.



Noah Layne

## **Wind, Wind, Blowing**

Words: P. Dehmel Music: G. Wolters

Wind, wind, blowing, The moon, it is not showing.  
The moon has gone away so far To catch a little shooting star.  
Wind, wind, blowing, The moon, it is not showing.

Stars, stars, glimmer, The moon is just a shimmer.  
She has a sickle in her hand To cut the grass in heaven's land.  
Stars, stars, glimmer, The moon is just a shimmer.

Moon, brighter growing, Your lovely rays now throwing.  
They are of finest silver sand You sow them over sea and land.  
Moon, brighter growing, Your lovely rays now throwing.

## Autumn

### Out in the Meadows Danish folk song

Out in the meadows the grain has been cradled,  
Rye and wheat are stacked and soon the hay is in the barn.

Trees have been shaken and fruit has been gathered,  
Homeward now we wend our way upon the final load.

*Chorus:*

*Gladness on ev'ry hand,  
Games and dance throughout the land;  
Singing merrily we bind  
The happy harvest wreath.*

Soon we shall harvest the corn, which is ripened;  
Gen'rously it pays the faithful laborer his wage.  
So, in the fullness of bountiful harvest,  
Let us keep an open heart for those who are in need.

*Chorus:*

*Gladness on ev'ry hand,  
Games and dance throughout the land;  
Singing merrily we bind  
The happy harvest wreath.*



### Come Little Leaves

Words: G. Cooper Music: Unknown

“Come little leaves,” Said the Wind one day,  
“Come o’er the meadows With me and play;  
Put on your dresses of red and gold  
For summer is gone And the days grow cold.”

Soon as the leaves Heard the Wind’s loud call,  
Down they came fluttering, One and all;  
Over the brown fields  
They danced and flew,  
A-singing the glad little songs they knew.

Dancing and whirling The little leaves went;  
Winter had called them And they were content;  
Soon fast asleep In their earthy beds,  
The snow laid a coverlet Over their heads.



## Hurry, Hurry, Hurry

Words: M. Potts Music: M. Swinger

Rabbit twitched his twitchety ears  
On a twinkling autumn day.  
He could hear the North Wind whistle,  
And he scampered off to say:

*Chorus:*

*Hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry,  
We must all get fat and furry.  
Not a moment to be lost  
I can hear bold Jacky Frost.*



Squirrel shivered a shiverty shiver  
On a shiv'ry autumn day,  
She could feel the North Wind's fingers,  
And she scurried off to say:

*Chorus:...*

*Hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry,  
We must all get fat and furry.  
Not a moment to be lost  
I can feel bold Jacky Frost.*

Groundhog sniffed his sniffety nose  
On a snappy autumn day.  
He could smell the winter coming  
And he waddled off to say:

*Chorus ...*

*Hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry,  
We must all get fat and furry.  
Not a moment to be lost  
I can smell bold Jacky Frost.*

Black bear blinked her blinkety eyes  
On a blust'ry autumn day.  
She could see a snow cloud gather,  
And she lumbered off to say:

*Chorus: ...*

*Hurry, hurry, hurry, hurry,  
We must all get fat and furry.  
Not a moment to be lost  
I can see bold Jacky Frost.*

## Winter

### Winter Fun

Words: N. Turner Music: M. Swinger

Bring your sleds to the coasting hill:  
Firm and fine the snow is lying,  
Glist'ning white in the winter chill!  
Haul them up with a right good will.  
Yours is yellow and mine is blue.  
All get set as we count, one, two,  
Fling face down with a one, two, three,  
Off like birds on the wing are we!

Bring your skates, it is crisp and cold,  
Sun shines bright, and the pond is waiting.  
All join hands in a merry row,  
One, two, three and a way we go.  
Hear the ice, how it hums a song,  
Keen, clear song as we skim along,  
Forward, swift in the nipping air,  
Feet in time and the wind set fair.

### Icicles

Words Woodcrest Preschool

Music Woodcrest Community

I like icicles long and straight.  
Lick them, lick them  
Before it's too late!  
You should pick  
The icicles quick  
Before the sun  
Makes them all run.



**Little Snowflake** German folk song

Little snowflake, light snowflake,  
In your white skirt float down;  
From the clouds you come drifting  
To us here on the ground.

Come and stay on my window  
Like a lovely bright star;  
Draw some flowers and ferns, too  
Bring us joy from afar.

Little snowflake, come cover  
All the flowers with snow  
So they'll sleep warm and safely  
Till the spring breezes blow.

**Where Are the Froggies?**

Words and Music:

New Meadow Run Children

Where are the froggies When the north winds blow?  
We cannot see them In the ice and snow.  
Deep, deep, down In the mud they lie, Froggies sleeping With tight-closed eyes.  
When the warm spring sun Comes out, Froggies wake and jump about.  
Oh, how happy they will be – A spring-time world they will see!

Where are the turtles When the north winds blow?  
We cannot see them In the ice and snow.  
Deep, deep, down In the mud they lie, Turtles sleeping With tight-closed eyes.  
When the warm spring sun Comes out, Turtles wake and crawl about  
Oh, how happy they will be – A spring-time world they will see!

Where are the bears When the north winds blow?  
We cannot see them in the ice and snow.  
Snug and warm in a cave they lie, Baby bears sleeping with tight-closed eyes.  
When the warm spring sun comes out, Baby bears wake and run about.  
Oh, how happy they will be – A spring-time world they will see!

Where are the squirrels When the north winds blow?  
We cannot see them in the ice and snow.  
Cracking nuts in a hollow tree, Squirrels are cozy as cozy can be.  
When the warm spring sun comes out, Squirrels wake and jump about.  
Oh, how happy they will be – A spring-time world they will see!

Where are the caterpillars When the north winds blow?  
We cannot see them in the ice and snow.  
Snug and warm in a cocoon they lie, Caterpillar changing to a butterfly.  
When the warm spring sun comes out, Butterflies wake and flutter about.  
Oh, how happy they will be – A spring-time world they will see!

**Winter-Walk**

Words: I. Eastwick Music: M. Swinger

Rose-red is the evening sky,  
Milk-white is the snow,  
Let's go on our evening walk –  
Do, do let us go.  
Tomorrow the sky may be dull and grey,  
Tomorrow the snow may be gone,  
So let us go on a winter's walk  
In the last rays of the sun.



These songs were some of the songs my children grew up with. I hope that you and your family will enjoy them as much as we have. Most of them come from a songbook – **Sing Through the Seasons**, edited by Marlys Swinger, published by Plough Publishing House, and illustrated with delightful drawings that compliment the innocence of the songs.

Music has been a part of my life since I was born. My mother sang to me when I was a baby. She still sings with me when she comes to visit even though we're both much older than either one of us can believe. My family immigrated to the USA in 1956. My mother, in particular, missed the way music was a part of the everyday culture in Holland. So she did what she could and sang with my brother, sister, and me at home.

I was 8 years old when we left Holland. Music was one of the things that helped me to make the transition to my new world. One of the first English songs I remember learning was **Over the Meadows** in music class at Lincoln School in third grade with Miss Lincoln, our music teacher. In fact, most of my memories of that transition time from one language and culture to another involve the songs I learned then.

My hope is that this recording will inspire you to sing to and with the children in your life. Singing doesn't have to involve back-up instruments or bands. All you need is your voice and a child to sing along with you.

Marty Layne is a mother of four and grandmother of one. As the result of homeschooling her children, she wrote a book *Learning At Home: A Mother's Guide To Homeschooling*. Before having her own children she ran a daycare center and a nursery school. She has taught baby massage and continues to speak at conferences and workshops about homeschooling and other parenting topics.