LYRICS | Welcome as the Flowers in May | Deborah Payne and Sam Gleaves

Garden Hymn

The Lord into His garden comes, The spices yield a rich perfume, The lilies grow and thrive, The lilies grow and thrive.

Refreshing showers of grace divine, From Jesus flow to every vine, And make the dead revive, And make the dead revive.

O that this dry and barren ground In springs of water may abound, A fruitful soil become, Fruitful soil become.

The desert blossoms as the rose When Jesus conquers all His foes And makes His people one, And makes His people one.

Come brethren ye who love the Lord Who taste the sweetness of His word, In Jesus' ways go on, In Jesus' ways go on.

Our troubles and our trials here Will only make us richer there When we arrive at home, When we arrive at home.

Ezekiel Saw The Wheel (from the singing of Sparky and Rhonda Rucker)

Chorus: Ezekiel saw the wheel, (where) Way up in the middle of the air Ezekiel saw the wheel, way in the middle of the air And the big wheel runs by faith (it runs by faith) and the little wheel runs by the grace of God And a wheel in a wheel (turning) Way in the middle of the air

Let me tell what a hypocrite will do (way in the middle of the air) He'll talk about me and he'll talk about you (way in the middle of the air)

Chorus

Watch out, sister, when you walk on across (way in the middle of the air) Your foot might slip and your soul get lost (way in the middle of the air)

Chorus

One of these days about 12 o'clock (way in the middle of the air) This old world's gonna reel and rock (way in the middle of the air)

Welcome as the Flowers in May

Samuel R. Gleaves (Fabulachian Music, ASCAP, 2019)

I drove up the steep gravel drive Climbed the ridge where I knew I would find You busy with your work, hanging clothes out on the line Oh, dear friend of mine Here the two of us will spend the day Sitting in the porch swing, rock and sway You ask me what my heart wants to say Oh, dear friend of mine

Chorus: We can sing a song about some old true love Any time we spend, it is never enough When I turn to go, you always say You're as welcome as the flowers in May

Now the redbuds they are putting on a show Forsythia and violet all aglow When the weather breaks, you can surely know Oh, dear friend of mine I'll be headed up the mountain once again To rock with you in warm summer wind And we'll howl like coyotes when we're laughing Oh, dear friend of mine

Chorus

When melodies grow distant in my mind And I cannot do justice to the lines There will be a young one to step right in time Oh, dear friend of mine

Chorus: They can sing a song about some old true love Boots of spanish leather and the sky blue gloves When they turn to go, I'll think of you and say You're as welcome as the flowers in May

Across The Great Divide - Kate Wolf

I've been walkin' in my sleep Countin' troubles 'stead of countin' sheep Where the years went I can't say; I just turned around and they've gone away

I've been siftin' through the layers Of dusty books and faded papers They tell a story I used to know One that happened so long ago

Chorus: It's gone away, yesterday Now I find myself on the mountainside Where the rivers change direction Across the great divide

Instrumental (verse)

Now, I hear it, the owl a callin' Softly as the night is fallin' With a question, and I reply But he's gone across the great divide

Chorus

The finest hour that I have seen Is the one that comes between The edge of night and the break of day It's when the darkness, it rolls away

Chorus

Chorus

Blessing

Samuel R. Gleaves (Fabulachian Music, ASCAP, 2016)

We come here troubled and wearing thin Leaning on this table, we're together again We might laugh and we might quarrel, give thanks and bow our heads But we always leave well fed

I've come here running, squirmed in my seat Anxious to tell it, the trouble in me In these hands and in these dishes, solace here to find Constant human ties that bind

Chorus:

There's a blessing at this table Making room right next to me This table has seen bounty And it's held just what we need Keep us mindful and humble Ever close to what is real This food we were brought up on We raised it in these fields In these fields

God moves in kindness, I've heard folks say By our different teachers, we are led this way And now this food is laid before us and so many do without Let us work to share this plenty now

Chorus

It is an old, old story, it's ours to tell We take pride in anything we raise ourselves What is growing here between us, you know it ain't all kind Help us tend that holy vine

Chorus

She Rang the Bells

Samuel R. Gleaves (Fabulachian Music, ASCAP, 2017)

Who rang the bells Dear neighbor, dear mother Who rang the bells And gave us a song Who rang the bells Shoulder to shoulder Brightening our journey all the day long

Who rang the bells For me walking homeward Who rang the bells In the clear frigid night Who rang the bells So vast and familiar Bringing to memory her face like a light

She rang the bells Climbing the stairway She rang the bells O'er the place she loved best She rang the bells All through her own days Now we are thankfully tracing her steps

We ring the bells And pause to remember We ring the bells To ground us in time

We ring the bells To call on each other All of the same heart We walk to the chime

Sweet Rivers of Redeeming Love

Traditional. From the singing of the McLain Family Band.

Sweet rivers of redeeming love Flow just before my eyes Had I the pinions of a dove I'd to those regions fly

I'd rise superior to my pain With joy outstrip the wind I'd cross the cold and stormy main And leave this world behind

I view the monster Death and smile Now he has lost his sting Though Satan rages all the while I still the triumph sing

Pretty Saro

Traditional. From the singing of Jean Ritchie.

Down in some lone valley In a lonesome place Where the wild birds do whistle And their notes do increase Farewell, Pretty Saro I bid you adieu But I'll dream of Pretty Saro Wherever I go

My love, she won't have me So I understand She wants a free holder Who owns house and land I cannot maintain her On silver and gold Nor buy all the fine things That a big house can hold

If I were a merchant And could write a fine hand I'd write my love a letter That she'd understand I'd write it by the river Where the waters o'erflow And I'll dream of pretty Saro Wherever I go

Jubilee

Jean Ritchie

It's all out on the old railroad, all out on the sea All out on the old railroad, far as I can see

Chorus: Swing and turn, jubilee, live and learn, jubilee

Hardest work I ever done, working on the farm Easiest work I ever done, swing my true love's arm (repeat chorus after each verse)

Coffee grows on a white oak tree, sugar runs in brandy Girls as sweet as a lump of gold, boys as sweet as candy

Some will come on Saturday night, some will come on Sunday If you give them half a chance, they'll be back on Monday

Saddle up the old gray horse, who will be the rider? Ride him down to the old stillhouse and get a jug of cider.

If I had a needle and thread as fine as I could sew I'd sew my true love to my side and down this creek I'd go

In some lady's fine brick house, in some lady's garden Let me out or I'll break out, fare ye well my darlin'.

If I had no house at all, I'd be found a crawlin' Up and down this rocky road lookin' for my darlin'.

I won't have no widow man, neither will my cousin You can get such stuff as that for fifteen cents a dozen.

All I want's a big fat horse, corn to feet hit on Pretty little girl to stay at home and feed it when I'm gone. **Rachel's Song** - for Rae Garringer Samuel R. Gleaves (Fabulachian Music, ASCAP, 2019)

In the gloaming light, come walk by my side Down a gravel road by this creek You might hear a whippoorwill, you can feel the evening chill You can see why I never want to leave

Chorus: Here is the home where I feel strong Here on this land, in your arms Here we've been, here we'll stay We belong here in this place

In our one stoplight town and this county 'round We know how to care for our own We can dance, raise a glass in this kitchen and laugh We know we will never be alone

Chorus

Bridge: I hear that city callin' I won't leave this life behind I want to hold you in the morning See that old ridge line

Chorus