

The Australian poet Banjo Paterson wrote the words to 'Waltzing Matilda' in January 1895 while staying at Dagworth Station, a sheep and cattle station near Winton in Central West Queensland owned by the Macpherson family.

Waltzing Matilda

AB "Banjo" Paterson

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong
Under the shade of a coolibah tree
He sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me
He sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me

Down came a jumbuck to drink at the billabong
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me
He sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me

Up rode the squatter, mounted on his thoroughbred
Up rode the troopers, one, two, three
Where's the jolly jumbuck that you've got in your tucker bag
You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda with me

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me
Where's the jolly jumbuck that you've got in your tucker bag
You'll come a-waltzing you scoundrel, with me

Up jumped the swagman, sprang into the billabong
You'll never take me alive, said he
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by the billabong
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me
His ghost may be heard as you pass by the billabong
You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda with me

Banjo Paterson: 1895 (Bush ballad)

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