

# Folk & Traditional Song Lyrics

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## Oh! It's a Lovely War!

Oh! It's a Lovely War!

Up to your waist in water,  
Up to your eyes in slush,  
Using the kind of language  
That makes the sergeants blush;  
Who wouldn't join the army,  
That's what we all enquire,  
Don't we pity the poor civilians  
Sitting beside the fire ?

Chorus:

Oh! Oh! Oh! It's a lovely war,  
Who wouldn't be a soldier, eh ?  
Oh, it's a shame to take the pay.

As soon as reveille has gone  
We feel just as heavy as lead,  
But we never get up till the sergeant  
Brings our breakfast up to bed.  
What do you want with eggs and ham  
When you've got plum and apple jam ?  
Form fours! Right turn!  
How shall we spend the money we earn ?

When does a soldier grumble ?  
When does a soldier make a fuss ?  
No one is more contented  
In all the world than us.  
Oh, it's a cushy life, boys,  
Really, we love it so;  
Once a fellow was sent on leave  
And simply refused to go.

Come to the cook-house door, boys,  
Sniff at the lovely stew,  
Who is it says the colonel  
Gets better grub than you ?  
Any complaints this morning?  
Do we complain ? Not we.  
What's the matter with lumps of onion  
Floating around the tea ?

From Shay, Pious Friends and Drunken Companions

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WW1 song  
RG