

# Traditional & Folk Songs with lyrics & midi music

## [www.traditionalmusic.co.uk](http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk)

### Stenka Razin

Stenka Razin

From beyond the wooded island  
To the river wide and free  
Proudly sailed the arrow-breasted  
Ships of Cossack yeomanry.

On the first is Stenka Razin  
With his princess by his side  
Drunken holds in marriage revels  
With his beauteous young bride.

From behind there comes a murmur  
"He has left his sword to woo;  
One short night and Stenka Razin  
Has become a woman, too."

Stenka Razin hears the murmur  
Of his discontented band  
And his lovely Persian princess  
He has circled with his hand.

His dark brows are drawn together  
As the waves of anger rise;  
And the blood comes rushing swiftly  
To his piercing jet black eyes.

"I will give you all you ask for  
Head and heart and life and hand."  
And his voice rolls out like thunder  
Out across the distant land.

Volga, Volga, Mother Volga  
Wide and deep beneath the sun,  
You have never such a present  
From the Cossacks of the Don.

So that peace may reign forever  
In this band so free and brave  
Volga, Volga, Mother Volga  
Make this lovely girl a grave.

Now, with one swift mighty motion

He has raised his bride on high  
And has cast her where the waters  
Of the Volga roll and sigh.

Now a silence like the grave  
Sinks to all who stand and see  
And the battle-hardened Cossacks  
Sink to weep on bended knee.

"Dance, you fools, and let's be merry  
What is this that's in your eyes?  
Let us thunder out a chantey  
To the place where beauty lies."

From beyond the wooded island  
To the river wide and free  
Proudly sailed the arrow-breasted  
Ships of Cossack yeomanry.

Russian folk song; translator unknown  
From the Folksinger's Wordbook  
apr97