



## Bermuda Quadrangle A Beautiful Life

JD211



DOLBY SYSTEM

**Side A:**

Girls They Go Wild Over Me  
Easy and Slow  
Firing the Mauretania  
The Cowboy's Lament  
Where We'll Never Grow Old  
Overseas In India (Sara Morgan)

**Side B:**

Blow the Man Down  
Someone to Love Me  
Did-Na-Doo  
Granny's Old Arm Chair  
Workin' On a Push Boat  
The Wind and The Rain  
A Beautiful Life



## Bermuda Quadrangle

Jeff Davis: *Vocal, banjo, guitar, fiddle, mandolin, piano*

Jerry Epstein: *Vocal, concertina, piano*

David Jones: *Vocal*

Jeff Warner: *Vocal, guitar, banjo, concertina*

All songs traditional except

Overseas in India, © Sara Morgan, 1985

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## A Beautiful Life

Minstrel  
JD211

**NOTES:**

**Girls They Go Wild** is from the singing of Mac Benford, banjo scholar and performer from Ithaca, NY. Sheet music that has turned up since we learned it tells us that the song is entitled: "They Go Wild, Simply Wild, Over Me", written by Joe McCarthy and Fred Fisher in 1917, "Respectfully dedicated to our pal, Ed Morton." It is representative of the many "Tin Pan Alley" songs that worked their way into oral tradition.

**Easy and Slow** seems to be a Belfast street song. It has been published in the *Scone Ceilidh Song Book* with no credit. Joe Hickerson has informed us that it is attributed to Dominic Behan.

**The Fireman's Lament or Firing the Mauretania**

was entered in English Shanteyman Stan Hugill's column, "The Bosun's Locker", in *Spin, The Folksong Magazine* (Vol. 1, #9, 1962). His notes in their entirety: "Words collected and arranged by Redd Sullivan of the 'Thameside 4', sometime fireman himself. Tune: variant of 'Paddy Works on the Railway'." The original date in the first line was 1924. Jeff Warner changed it to 1904 to conform to our concept of when a Mauretania would have had a coal-fired engine.

We learned **The Cowboy's Lament** from singer and folklorist Dick Swain. It is found in the 1908 volume, *Songs of the Cowboys* by N. Howard Thorp, but without the "Roll On" chorus. That chorus is found with the song in Jerry Silverman's *Folksong Encyclopedia*, and we agree with Dick that it belongs.

**Where We'll Never Grow Old** is from Smith's Sacred Singers, recorded in Atlanta in 1926 and reissued on Columbia Records: *The Smithsonian Collection of Classic Country Music*, edited by Bill Malone (1981).

**Overseas in India**, originally titled "Home, Boys, Home", is from a poem in an old magazine, set to music by Sara Morgan.

**Blow the Man Down** is the most complete, most colorful and randiest version extant of this capstan shanty. Where John "Fud" Benson of Newport, RI learned it, we don't know. We'll have to ask him someday.

**Someone to Love Me** is from the singing of Joe

Heany, *sean nos* (old style) singer from the West coast of Ireland. It is a version of "The Prisoner's Song", the first million selling country music record in America, sung by Vernon Dalhart in 1924.

**Did-Na-Doo** we learned from Indiana singer and folklorist Dillon Bustin. He in turn got it from Mary Wheeler's book *Steamboatin' Days*. Like many songs that Dillon sings, this one has a touch of his personality, coloring the printed source material.

**Granny's Old Arm Chair**, a classic bit of fantasy, is one of the most universally known of songs from the heyday of the English Music Halls. Jeff Warner's parents even collected it in the Appalachian Mountains!

**Workin' on a Push Boat** we learned also from Dillon Bustin, but we have no idea of his source. Other versions are well known, but we know of no other with a tune at all like this one.

**The Wind and the Rain** is a version of the ancient ballad of "The Two Sisters" from traditional Virginia/North Carolina singer Kilby Snow.

**A Beautiful Life** is from the singing of Amish sisters Emma and Mary Yoder of Charm, Ohio. It was collected by Jeff Goehring of The Red Mule String Band.

**MINSTREL RECORDINGS**

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