

**Lyrics to Songs in Peter Bergel's "Sing Like a Movement" Presentation**

**Follow the Drinking Gourd**

When the sun comes back and first quail calls,  
Follow the Drinking Gourd  
Well the old man is a waitin' for to carry you to  
freedom  
Follow the Drinking Gourd

Chorus:

Follow the Drinking Gourd  
Follow the Drinking Gourd  
Well the old man is a waitin' for to carry  
you to freedom  
Follow the Drinking Gourd

Well the river bank makes a mighty good road  
Follow the Drinking Gourd  
Left foot, peg foot, travelin' on  
Follow the Drinking Gourd

Chorus

Well the river ends between two hills  
Follow the Drinking Gourd  
There's another river on the other side  
Follow the Drinking Gourd

Chorus

**Bourgeois Blues**

**By Huddie Ledbetter**

Come all you people, listen to me  
Don't try to buy no home down in Washington DC  
'Cause it's a bourgeois town, yes a bourgeois town,  
I got the Bourgeois Blues, gonna spread the news all  
around.

Well, the white folks in Washington, they know just  
how  
To toss a colored man a nickel just to see him bow,  
'Cause it's a bourgeois town, yes a bourgeois town,  
I got the Bourgeois Blues, gonna spread the news all  
around.

Huddie Ledbetter and his wife, was standin' upstairs  
Heard a white man holler, "Don't want no niggers  
up there,"  
'Cause it's a bourgeois town, yes a bourgeois town,

I got the Bourgeois Blues, gonna spread the news all  
around.

This is the land of the brave, the home of the free  
Don't want to be mistreated by no bourgeoisie  
In a bourgeois town, yes a bourgeois town,  
I got the Bourgeois Blues, gonna spread the news all  
around.

(Repeat first verse)

**Links on the Chain**

**By Phil Ochs**

Come all your ranks of labor, come all you union  
corps,  
And see if you remember the struggles of before  
When you were standin' helpless on the outside of  
the door  
And you started buildin' links on the chain, on the  
chain  
And you started buildin' links on the chain.

When the police on the horses were waitin' on  
demand  
Ridin' through the strife with a pistol in their hand  
Swingin' at the heads of many a union man  
As you built one more link on the chain, on the  
chain  
And you built one more link on the chain.

Then the army of the fascists tried to put you on the  
run,  
But the army of the union, they did what could be  
done  
And the power of the factory proved greater than the  
gun  
As you build one more link on the chain, on the  
chain  
And you built one more link on the chain.

Then in 1954 decision's finally made  
The black man was a risin' fast, risin' from the  
shame  
And your union took no stand and your union was  
betrayed  
As you lost yourselves a link on the chain, on the  
chain  
As you lost yourselves a link on the chain.

And then there came the boycotts and then the  
freedom rides

Forgetting what you stood for, you tried to block the tide  
Oh the automation bosses, they were laughin' on the side  
As they watched you lose your links on the chain, on the chain  
As they watched you lose your links on the chain.

You know when they block your trucks, boys, by layin' on the road  
All that they are doin' is all that you have showed  
That you gotta strike, you gotta fight to get what you are owed  
When you're building all your links on the chain, on the chain  
When you're buildin' all your links on the chain.

And the man who tries to tell you they'll take your jobs away  
Is the same man who was scabbin' hard just the other day  
And your union's not a union till he's put out of your way  
And he's locked out by the links on your chain, on your chain  
And he's locked out by the links on your chain.

For now the times are tellin' you, the times are rollin' on  
And you're fightin' for the same thing: the job that will be gone  
So it's only fair to ask you boys now which side are you on  
As you're building all your links on the chain, on the chain  
As you're buildin' all your links on the chain.

## **(I Ain't Gonna Let Nobody) Turn Me Around**

I ain't gonna let nobody, turn me around  
Turn me around  
Turn me around  
I ain't gonna let nobody, turn me around  
I'm gonna keep on a walkin'  
Gonna keep on a talkin'  
Walking down that Freedom line.

I ain't gonna let no segregation...

I ain't gonna let no war in Viet Nam...

I ain't gonna let no nuclear weapons tests...

I ain't gonna let no corporations...

I ain't gonna let no filthy coal trains...

I ain't gonna let nobody...

## **Paul and Silas**

Paul and Silas were bound in jail  
Got no money for to go their bail

### Chorus

Keep your eyes on the prize,  
Hold on  
Hold on, hold on  
Keep your eyes on the prize  
Hold on.

Only thing that we did wrong  
Stayed in the wilderness a day too long

### Chorus

Only thing that we did right  
Was the day we began to fight

### Chorus

Paul and Silas began to shout  
Jail doors opened and they walked out

## **Woke Up This Morning**

Oh I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom  
Oh I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom

Oh I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah

I'm walkin' and talkin' with my mind stayed on freedom

I'm walkin' and talkin' with my mind stayed on freedom

I'm walkin' and talkin' with my mind stayed on freedom

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah

I'm singin' and prayin'' with my mind stayed on freedom

I'm singin' and prayin'' with my mind stayed on freedom

I'm singin' and prayin'' with my mind stayed on freedom

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah

Teachin' and preachin' with my mind stayed on freedom

Teachin' and preachin' with my mind stayed on freedom

Teachin' and preachin' with my mind stayed on freedom

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah

There ain't no harm to keep your mind stayed on freedom

There ain't no harm to keep your mind stayed on freedom

There ain't no harm to keep your mind stayed on freedom

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah

## Where Have All The Flowers Gone?

By Pete Seeger

Where have all the flowers gone, long time passing?

Where have all the flowers gone, long time ago?

Where have all the flowers gone?

Young girls have picked them every one

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Where have all the young girls gone, long time passing?

Where have all the young girls gone, long time ago?

Where have all the young girls gone?

Gone for husbands every one

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Where have all the husbands gone, long time passing?

Where have all the husbands gone, long time ago?

Where have all the husbands gone?

Gone for soldiers every one

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Where have all the soldiers gone, long time passing?

Where have all the soldiers gone, long time ago?

Where have all the soldiers gone?

Gone to graveyards, every one

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Where have all the graveyards gone, long time passing?

Where have all the graveyards gone, long time ago?

Where have all the graveyards gone?

Gone to flowers, every one

Oh, when will they ever learn?

Oh, when will they ever learn?

## Get Together

By Chet Powers

Love is but a song we sing

Fear a way we die

You can make the mountains ring

Or make the angels cry

Though the bird is on the wing and

We do not know why

### Chorus

C'mon people, now, smile on each other

Everybody get together

Try to love one another right now

(repeat, if desired)

Some will come and some will go

And we shall surely pass

When the one who left us here

Returns for us at last

We are but a moment's sunlight

Fadin' on the grass

### Chorus

If you hear the song I'm singing

You will understand

You hold the key to love and fear

All in your tremblin' hand

One key unlocks them both, you know,  
It lies at your command,

Chorus

## Down by the Riverside

Gonna lay down my sword and shield  
Down by the riverside (3x)  
Gonna lay down my sword and shield  
Down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

Chorus

I ain't gonna study war no more (6x)

Gonna walk with the Prince of Peace...

Gonna try on my long white robe...

Gonna join hands with everyone (or - around the world)...

## The Cow Song By Terry Sorelle

Way out in Columbia County  
Where the grass grows delicious and tall  
The cows all agree with each other:  
They don't like Trojan at all. (So they sing:)

Refrain:

No nukes, no nukes.  
No radioactive junk in my milk if you  
please!  
No nukes, no nukes.  
We'd rather make ice cream and cheese.

The cows are our friends and our neighbors  
They're part of the working class, too.  
Because of the fruits of their labors  
We've yogurt and butter for you.

The cows are like most other women  
As mothers they work without pay  
But as sisters united in struggle  
They're working to see better days.

The cows don't like strontium 90 (yuck)  
They say that it curdles their cream.  
But they'll tumble the wealthy and mighty—  
Those cows have a socialist dream!

The next time we occupy Trojan  
There'll be one more affinity group.  
You'll know them by horns and by udders.  
They'll be our most militant troop!

## Low-Level Radiation Blues

By Rhys Scholls and Marcia Barrentine

First it was the fallout from the sky  
Buildin' bigger bombs so more people could die  
Now they got it comin' from those nuclear plants  
It's the peaceful atom, gonna give you cancer.  
I got the blues, I got the blues  
I got the low-level radiation blues.

Strontium 90 it falls on the grass  
The cows eat it up and then it's milk in your glass  
It settles right down in your bones and teeth  
And in a few more years it's gonna give you grief.  
I've got the blues, I've got the blues  
I've got the low-level radiation blues.

Chorus

And you better believe that it's a-killin' you  
We better get together 'cause it's killin' me  
too  
I got the blues, I got the blues  
I got the low-level radiation blues.

Doctor Sternglass and Doctor Bertell  
They checked their figures and they checked them  
well  
They said, "Thousands of people will get sick and  
die  
Because the radiation limits are way too high."  
I got the blues, I got the blues  
I got the low-level radiation blues.

So the scientists went to the NRC  
They said, "These regulations are a travesty!"  
The bureaucrats said, "Shucks," and "Gee whiz,  
That's just the way it is in the nuclear biz."  
I got the blues, I got the blues  
I got the low-level radiation blues.

Chorus, and then, slowly:

I got the blues, I got the blues  
I got the low-level radiation, cancer and mutation,  
fed'ral regulation blues.

## Peace is Flowing Like a River

Peace is flowing like a river  
Flowing out from you and me  
Flowing out into the desert  
Setting all the captives free

(Zip in Love, Hope, and We)

## This Land is Your Land By Woody Guthrie

As I was walkin' that ribbon of highway,  
I saw above me that endless skyway  
I saw below me that golden valley,  
This land was made for you and me.

### Chorus

This land is your land, this land is my land,  
From California to the New York islands  
From the redwood forests to the Gulf Stream  
waters,  
This land was made for you and me.

I've roamed and rambled and followed by my  
footsteps  
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts  
And all around me a voice was sounding:  
This land was made for you and me.

### Chorus

When the sun was shining and I was strolling  
And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds  
rolling  
As the fog was lifting a voice was chanting:  
This land was made for you and me.

### Chorus

As I was walking, I saw a sign there  
And on the sign it said "no trespassing"  
But on the other side it didn't say nothing  
That side was made for you and me.

### Chorus

In the squares of the city, in the shadow of a steeple  
By the relief office, I seen my people  
As they stood there hungry, I stood there asking,  
Is this land made for you and me?

### Chorus

Nobody living can ever stop me  
As I go walking that freedom highway  
Nobody living can make me turn back, 'cause  
This land was made for you and me.

### Chorus

## Take Me Out of the Bomb Game

### New Words by Peter Bergel: Tune: Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Take me out of the Bomb Game  
Take me far from the cloud  
Sign me some treaties  
Give peace a chance  
Let's all agree  
Even China and France  
So it's root, root, root for the peace team  
If we don't win it's a shame  
'Cause it's just one strike and you're out  
Of the Old Bomb Game.

## Banks of Marble

### by Woody Guthrie, new words by Peter Bergel

I have traveled 'round this country  
From shore to shining shore  
And it really made me wonder  
The things I heard and saw.

I have seen the weary miner  
Scrubbing coal dust from his back  
And I've heard his children cryin'  
Got no coal to heat the shack.

Chorus

But the banks are made of marble  
With a guard at every door  
And the vaults are stuffed with silver  
That the miners sweated for.

I have seen big corporations  
Getting drunk on profit wine  
And I've seen the lengths they'll go to  
To protect their bottom line.

Chorus

But the banks are made of marble  
With a guard at every door  
And the vaults are stuffed with silver  
That the workers sweated for.

I have seen the masked policemen  
With their nightsticks in a row  
Just to guard faceless free traders  
As they plot in the WTO.

Chorus

But the banks are made of marble  
With a guard at every door  
And the vaults are stuffed with silver  
That the workers sweated for.

I have seen our so-called leaders  
Taking care of their careers  
As they cut the workers programs  
To benefit war profiteers.

Chorus

But the banks are made of marble  
With a guard at every door  
And the vaults are stuffed with silver  
That the workers sweated for.

I have seen the people working  
All across this mighty land  
And I prayed we'd get together  
And together make a stand.

Chorus

Then we'd own those banks of marble  
With a guard at every door  
And we'd share those vaults of silver  
That we all have sweated for.

## **Deportee** by Woody Guthrie

The crops are all in and the peaches are rotting  
The oranges are piled in their creosote dumps  
They're flying them back to the Mexico border  
It takes all their money to wade back again.

### Chorus

Goodbye to my Juan, farewell Roselita  
Adios mes amigos, Jesus e Maria  
You won't have a name when you ride the big airplane  
All they will call you will be deportees.

My father's own father, he waded that river  
They took all the money he made in his life  
My sisters and brothers come work in the fruit fields  
They rode that old truck till they took down and died.

### Chorus

Some of us are illegal and others not wanted  
Our work contract's out and we have to move on  
Six hundred miles to that Mexico border  
They chased us like rustlers, like outlaws, like thieves.

### Chorus

The skyplane caught fire over Los Gatos Canyon  
A fireball of lightning, it shook all our hills  
Who are these dear friends all falling like dry leaves?  
Radio said, "They are just deportees."

### Chorus

Is this the best way we can grow our big orchards?  
Is this the best way we can raise our good crops?  
To die and be scattered to rot on the topsoil  
And be known by no names except "deportees."

### Chorus

## **Afta NAFTA** By Dr. Atomic's Medicine Show (Marc Nassar)

Used to be one job could feed your family  
Now it seems that's only in your dreams  
You're the 99%, that's all you're gonna get, that's a facta

Big business sees just one economy  
And companies flock where the pay is chicken feed  
You're the 99%, that's all you're gonna get, that's a facta

Afta NAFTA – you can't get a break  
Afta NAFTA – It's a corporate State  
Afta NAFTA – If you're gettin' irate  
Afta NAFTA – change the public debate  
Hear my plea, Stop th' TPP, afta NAFTA

The courts let one per-cent call all the shots  
They'll be the haves and we'll be the have nots  
Nothin' but debt for the 99 percent - that's a Shafta

You gotta chance to take this country back  
The one percent won't give it if you ask  
Collectively we can break free - that's a facta

Afta NAFTA – our future's at stake  
Afta NAFTA – It's a corporate State  
Afta NAFTA – If you're getting irate  
Afta NAFTA – change the public debate  
Hear my plea, Stop th' TPP, afta NAFTA

It's about bein' free and our own destiny, that's a facta.

## **Do It Now**

**Tune: Bella Ciao, International Climate Anthem from Belgium**

We need to wake up  
We need to rise up  
We need to open our eyes and do it now, now, now!  
We need to build a better future  
And we need to start right now.

We're on a planet  
That has a problem  
We've got to solve it, get involved, and do it now, now now!  
We need to build a better future  
And we need to start right now.

Make it greener  
Make it cleaner  
Make it last, make it fast, and do it now, now, now!  
We need to build a better future  
And we need to start right now.

No point in waiting  
Or hesitating  
We must get wise, take no more lies and do it now, now, now!  
We need to build a better future  
And we need to start right now.

## Leave It In the Ground by Peter Bergel

Tearing off your mountain tops delights Peabody Coal  
They don't care about the mess that's building their bankroll  
But if a global meltdown only makes you frown,  
Maybe you should tell 'em just to leave it in the ground.

### Chorus

**Leave it in the ground, leave it in the ground  
It really doesn't matter how much coal (2-gas, 3-fuel, 4-fuel) you've found  
Financial domination will do in all creation  
So change your frackin' ways and leave it in the ground.**

People 'round the country can light water from their taps  
Fracking natch'ral gas makes their environment collapse  
Perhaps it's not so natch'ral if it makes nature come unwound  
We'd all be better off just to leave it in the ground.

### Chorus (gas)

If we burn the fossil fuels that they've already found  
Our planet will heat up so much that we won't be around  
This message from the dinosaurs I will now expound:  
You really better tell them to leave it in the ground.

### Chorus (fuel)

We've all seen the fires, floods, the droughts and super storms, Even  
Dittohead deniers know that this is not the norm  
Unless we take some action and help nature to rebound  
She'll retaliate and she'll leave us in the ground.

### Chorus (fuel)

## Medicare for All by Peter Bergel

Tell me how this sounds for health care  
You're covered just as soon as you are born  
Paying for it no longer is a nightmare  
Your bills don't read like economic porn

### Chorus

Medicare for you  
Medicare for me  
Medicare's the kind of care  
That everybody needs.

Obamacare beats out the former system  
But it's still run by corporate greed  
Fairness means we've got to resist 'em  
Medicare for all is what we need

Chorus

And don't be afraid of the S-word  
Not if you got here on a public street  
Don't let your thinking be censored  
By right-wing nuts and corporate elites.

Chorus

Don't vote against your best interests  
Insurance profits don't help you get well  
The fear that's created by alarmists  
Is all just to make you buy the scam they sell.

Chorus

You say you don't want health care to be rationed  
Guess what, my friend, it already is  
But reserving health for rich folks is old fashioned  
Let's give it to the people not big biz

Chorus, then:

It's the kind of care everybody needs.