

Waltzing Matilda (Ralph Harris)

Waltzing Matilda is a song about an Australian Hobo I'd guess you'd call him. He wanders through the bushland of Australia and he takes all his meagre belongings wrapped up in an old blanket, which is strung across his shoulders with an old piece of twine and this is called his swag, hence the name Swagman. Now affectionately, or otherwise, he refers to this swag as Matilda. It's like his only companion and as he wanders through the bushtracks he finds himself talking to it as if it's a real person. So the term Waltzing Matilda is nothing to do with dancing at all it mean in fact, carrying this thing on your back through the long lonely stretches of the Australian bush. Couple of other questions quickly, pay attention because I *will* be asking questions afterwards about this... Couple of other terms:

A billabong is a pool of deep water

A billy is a little tin can they boil the tea in

A jumbuck is a sheep

A tuckerbag is a bag for carrying tucker

Tuck-er, food bag, tucker is food, it's a food bag, sorry, like a knapsack um

What else?:

The squatter is the big land owner

That's enough, lets get on with the song

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong
Under the shade of a Koolabah Tree
And 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
And he sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

Then down came a jumbuck to drink at that billabong
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tuckerbag
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda, waltzing Matilda
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tuckerbag
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

Then down came the squatter mounted on his thoroughbred
Down came the troopers ONE, TWO, THREE, (ha ha)

Righto, where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tuckerbag?
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me

Waltzing Matilda, waltzing Matilda
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me
Righto, where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tuckerbag?
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me

So up jumped the swagman and he sprang into that billabong ('*whistle*'... lovethat bit)
You'll never take me alive said he
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong
You'll come a waltz...

Waltzing Matilda, waltzing Matilda
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong
You'll come a waltzing Matilda with me.

