

# Shenandoah

american folk song arr J. ERB

SS AA TT BB

*Smoothly, tenderly*  
♩ = 60

*mp*

Soprano et Alto  
1. O She-nan-do', I long to see you, And hear your rol-ling ri-ver, O She-nan-do', I long to

7 *f* 8 9 10 11 12  
Soprano et Alto see you 'Way, we're bound way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou-ri.

Tenors 8 *mf*  
2. I long to see your smil-ling

Basses  
2. I long to see your smil-ling

13  
T1 val - ley, And hear your rol-ling ri - ver, I long to see your smil-ling val - ley, 'Way, we're bound a -

B1 val - ley, And hear your rol-ling ri - ver, I long to see your smil-ling val - ley, 'Way, we're bound a -

19 20 21 *mf* 22 23 *f* 24  
S1 3.'tis sev'n long years since last I see you, And hear your rol - ling

S2 3.'tis sev'n long years since last I see you, And hear your rol - ling

A1 Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

A2 Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

T1 *p*  
8 way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou-ri. Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

T2 8 way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou-ri. Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

B1 way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou-ri. Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

B2 way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou-ri. Shen - an - do', Shen - an - do', hear your rol - ling

25 26 27 28 29

S1 ri - ver, tis sev'n long years since last I see you, 'Way, we're bound a - way, A -

S2 ri - ver, tis sev'n long years since last I see you, 'Way, we're bound a - way, A -

A1 ri - ver, your ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do', rol - ling ri - ver 'Way, 'way A -

A2 ri - ver, your ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do', rol - ling ri - ver 'Way, 'way A -

T1 8 rol - ling ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do', rol - ling ri - ver 'Way, 'way A -

T2 8 rol - ling ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do', rol - ling ri - ver 'Way, 'way A -

B1 rol - ling ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do - ah, 'Way, 'way A -

B2 rol - ling ri - ver, Shen - an - do' Shen - an - do - ah, 'Way, 'way A -

30 31 32 33 34

S1 *p* cross the wide Mis - sou - ri. *p* O She - nan - do', I long to see you, And

S2 *mp* cross the wide Mis - sou - ri. *mp* O She - nan - do', I long to see you,

A1 *mp* cross the wide the wide Mis - sou - ri *mp* O She - nan - do', I long to see you,

A2 cross the wide Mis - sou - ri, the wide Mis - sou - ri *mp* O She - nan - do', I long to see you,

T1 8 *pp* cross the wide Mis - sou - ri, the wide Mis - sou - ri.

T2 8 cross the wide Mis - sou - ri, the wide Mis - sou - ri.

B1 cross the wide Mis - sou - ri, Mis - sou - ri.

B2 cross the wide Mis - sou - ri, Mis - sou - ri.

35 36 37 38

S1 hear your rol - ling ri - ver, O She - nan - do', I long to see you 'Way,

S2 And hear your rol - ling ri - ver, O She - nan - do', I long to see you

A1 And hear your rol - ling ri - ver, O She - nan - do', I long to see you

A2 And hear your rol - ling ri - ver, O She - nan - do', I long to see you

T1 8 Shen - - - an - - - do' O Shen - an -

T2 8 Shen - - - an - - - do' O Shen - an -

B1 Shen - - - an - - - do' Shen - an - do' O

B2 Shen - an - do' O

39 40 41 42 *p*

S1 we're bound a - way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou - ri. O

S2 'Way, we're bound a - way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou - ri.

A1 'Way, we're bound a - way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou - ri.

A2 'Way, we're bound a - way, A - cross the wide Mis - sou - ri.

T1 8 do' O wide Mis - - - sou - - - - -

T2 8 do' O wide Mis - - - sou - - - - -

B1 Shen - - - an - - - do' O wide Mis - - - sou - - - - -

B2 Shen - - - an - - - do' O wide Mis - - - sou - - - - -

43 44 45 46 47 48

S1 Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do',

S2 *p* O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do',

A1 *p* O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do',

A2 *p* O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do', O Shen - n - an - do',

T1 *Gently, firmly ppp* ri, Mis - sou - ri Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - an - do', O Shen - an - do'

T2 *ppp* ri, Mis - sou - ri Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - an - do', O Shen - an - do'

B1 *ppp* ri, Mis - sou - ri Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do'

B2 *ppp* ri, Mis - sou - ri Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do - ah, Shen - n - an - do'

Few sea chanteys originated in this country since we were a brand new nation in the days of sailing vessels, but "Shenandoah" is genuinely American. The song seems to have originated in the early nineteenth century as a land ballad in the areas of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, with a story of a trader who fell in love with the daughter of the Indian Chief Shenandoah. This enchanting song was taken up by sailors plying these rivers in keel and Mackinaw boats, and thus made its way down the Mississippi to the open ocean. The song had great appeal for American deep-sea sailors, and its rolling melody made it ideal as a capstan chantey, where a group of sailors push the massive capstan bars around and around in order to lift the heavy anchor.