

TEN POLISH FOLK SONGS

10 PIEŚNI LUDOWYCH



ENGLISH VERSION BY
JAN SŁWIŃSKI

PIANO SETTING BY
FELICJAN SZOPSKI

KSIĄŻNICA POLSKA
250 HOPE STR.



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GLASGOW C-2

1944

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*“Braid Claith lends fouk an unco heese,
Maks mony kail-worms butterflies,
Gives mony a doctor his degrees
For little skaith :
In short, you may be what you please
Wi’ gude Braid Claith.*

*For thof ye had as wise a snout on
As Shakespeare or Sir Isaac Newton,
Your judgement fouk wad hae a doubt on,
I’ll tak my aith,
Till they cou’d see ye wi’ a suit on
O’ gude Braid Claith.”*

ROBERT FERGUSON.

To
THE “ABBOTSFORD” ROBERTSONS OF ROTHESAY
who have so often warmed my rhyme-shivering soul
“wi’ the gude Braid Claith” of their Scottish Hearts
I dedicate
this English version of Polish songs.

Glasgow, Michaelmas, 1943.

Jan Sliwinski.

These ten Polish Folksongs come from different parts of my country and offer a manifold aspect of mood and melodic line. The myrtle wreath as necessary attribute of every wedding ceremony, and the hop vine as symbol of fecundity go far back in traditional customs.

My English version keeps strictly to the original rhythm of the tune, does not alter the sense by additional patchwork and tries, wherever it is possible, to imitate the onomatopoetic sound of the words. A Scottish touch here and there to acclimatize a song, where the situation did not get the worse for it, excuses, I hope, also the metamorphosis of a violet into a bluebell in No. 9. I did not aim at rhyming where primitiveness and simplicity might have suffered under it. A certain strangeness is intentionally preserved. The habitual ding dong smoothness of englished song versions often takes away the fragrance of flowers which have grown in another soil and another climate. Critics who will object to the "greening" linden, I should like to remind of the line in Keats: "The tender greening of April meadows."

FELICJAN SZOPSKI (born 1865 in South East Poland) has written piano music, songs and an opera "Lilies" after the ballad by Adam Mickiewicz. As a teacher he had several exceptionally gifted talents under him. His setting of these folk songs, treated actually as piano pieces, was in Poland very popular.

I.

WYJEZDZOJZE Z NAMI COME, COME AWAY WITH US

3 Wy - jezdzoj - ze z na - - mi Na - sa dro - - ga pa -
Come, come a - way with us, La - dy so fair and

ni, Zdym rucia - ny wione - cek Z koł - ka na - de drzewa - mi!
sweet, From the hook a - bove the door Take down the myr - tle wreath.

*Wyjezdzojze z nami
Nasa droga pani,
Zdym ruciany wionecek
Z kołka nade drzwiami!*

*A kędy pódziemy,
Kiej drogi nie wiemy?
Po przez góry i lasy
Pan Bóg będzie z nami.*

Come, come away with us,
Lady so fair and sweet,
From the hook above the door
Take down the myrtle wreath.

Where are we going then,
Since we don't know the way?
O'er the hills and through the woods,
God will not let us stray.

„Wyjeżdżajże z nami.“

Żywo z energią. (♩ = 138.)



II.

UŚNIJ-ZE MI UŚNIJ

SLEEP NOW, MY BABY



*Uśnij-ze mi uśnij,
 Siwe ocka stuśnij;
 (Siwe, siwiusieńkie,
 Moje malusieńkie.)*

*Uśnij-ze mi uśnij,
 Choć na goły ziemi,
 (Bo ci cyganecki
 Podusecki wzieni.)*

*Uśnij-ze mi uśnij,
 Pon Jezus cie uśpi,
 (Mama cie utuli
 W malowany luli.)*

*Uśnij-ze mi uśnij,
 Pon Jezus cie uśpi,
 (Janiółek obudzi,
 Pódziemy do ludzi.)*



Sleep now, my baby,
 And close thy drowsy eyelids!
 (Hazel eyes get hazy,
 Little limbs grow lazy.)

Sleep now, my baby,
 The hut is bare and lowly.
 (Gipsies from the willow
 Stole thy little pillow.)

Sleep now, my baby,
 Lord Jesus will thee shelter.
 (Mother will thee fondle
 In thy painted cradle.)

Sleep now, my baby,
 Lord Jesus will thee shelter.
 When the angels wake thee,
 For a walk I'll take thee.)



„Uśnij ze mi, uśnij.“

Tempo kołysanki. (♩ = 104.)

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six systems of music. The first system begins with a piano (p) dynamic. The second system also starts with p. The third system includes markings for l.r. (left hand), l.r. (right hand), and p.r. (piano right hand). The fourth system continues with p. The fifth system includes p, p. dimin., pp, and dimin. markings. The sixth system includes ppp, ritard., and pppp markings.

III.

SOM, SOM, SOM, W STAWIE RYBECKI

FISH, FISH, FISH, TINY LITTLE FISH

Som, som, som w stawie rybecki. Fish, fish, fish, tiny little fish, Oj, haw w tej sadzawicy - - cy! Play there in yonder wa - - ter

Oj, haw w tej sadzawicy - cy, (Pódziemy do nik, wyłowi - wimy je, Choć w dysc i błyskawice.) Play there in yonder wa - ter, How they dance around, Come, let us go and catch them!) Twist and twirl and bound,

Som, som, som w stawie rybecki.
 Som, som, som, malusineckie.
 Oj, haw w tej sadzawicy,
 Oj, haw w tej sadzawicy!
 (Pódziemy do nik, wyłowiemy je,
 Choć w dysc i błyskawice.)

Płyn, płyn, płyn rybko złocista,
 Dziś jako woda przejzysta,
 Oj, skryj się hań w sadzawie,
 Oj, skryj się hań w sadzawie.
 (Bo choć dysc pada,
 Jasio sie skrada,
 By cie wyłowił w stawie.)

Fish, fish, fish, tiny little fish,
 Fish, fish, fish, shiny silverish,
 Play there in yonder water,
 Play there in yonder water.
 (How they dance around,
 Twist and twirl and bound,
 Come, let us go and catch them !)

Swim, swim, swim, swiftly swim away,
 Clear is the shady pool to-day,
 Hide, can't you see the danger,
 Hide, can't you see the danger?
 (Jack is at your tails,
 Though it rains and hails,
 Hide, you are lost, poor creatures !)

„Som som, som wstawie rybecki.“

Żywo. (♩ = 152.)



IV.

TAM W KRAKOWIE, W PIEKNYM DOMKU

THERE IN CRACOW STAYS MY DARLING

4 Tam w Kra - kowie, w pieknym dom - ku, Tam ma lu - ba prze - by - wa.
There in Cracow stays my darl - ing In a house with win - dows bright,
(Sic - dzi, sić - ázi, przy pieknym stole - ku Bia - łom sa - te wy - sy - wa.)
(Stitching, stitching flowers red and ro - ses In her wedding gar - ments white.)

*Tam w Krakowie, w pieknym domku,
Tam ma luba przebywa,
(Siedzi, siedzi, przy pieknym stolicku
Białom sate wysywa.)*

*Nie bedzies ty, moja miła,
Biały saty wysywać,
(Bo juz jutro, rano, raniusieńko,
Muse ostro w glidzie stać.)*

There in Cracow stays my darling
In a house with windows bright,
(Stitching, stitching flowers red and roses
In her wedding garments white.)

Put aside the wedding garments,
Darling, rest thy eager hand,
(For to-morrow, early in the morning,
In the ranks I'll have to stand.)

„Tam w Krakowie, w pięknym domku.“

Tempo marsza. (♩ = 132.)

The musical score is written for piano in 2/4 time, marked 'Tempo marsza. (♩ = 132.)'. It consists of six systems of two staves each. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The melody is primarily in the right hand, featuring a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with quarter notes and chords. Dynamics include *mf* at the start, and *p* (piano) appears in the fourth, fifth, and sixth systems. The piece concludes with a final double bar line in the sixth system.

V.

MÓJ WIONECKU Z BARWINECKU

PERIWINKLE WREATH, I HAD THEE HUNG

4 Mój wio-nec - ku z barwi - nec - ku, W'iesa - tak cie na ko - łec - ku,
Periwinkle wreath, I had thee hung On a wooden peg, I had thee hung

(W'iesa - tak cie w moi sie - ni, Jaze mi cie ludzie wzie - ni.)
(On a wooden peg in the cottage wall, When people came and took thee down.)

Oj, chmielu, oj, nie - bo - ze, Pnij - ze sie, pnij ku gó - rze, Chmielu, nie - bo - ze!
Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher, Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher. Creep the pole a - loft,

Ty na dół, ty ku gó - rze, Pnij - ze sie, pnij po mu - rze, Chmielu, nie - bo - ze!
Now thou art high, now low - er, Climb up the wall, climb high - er, Climb aloft poor thing!

1. *Mój wionecku z barwinecku,
Wiesalak cie na kotecku,
(Wiesalak cie w moi sieni,
Jaze mi cie ludzie wzieni.)*



2. *Mój wionecku z siedmi ziela,
Chowalak cie do wesela,
(Chowalak cie w nowej skrzyni,
Jaze mi cie ludzie wzieni.)*

(Oj, chmielu, oj, nieboze,
Pnij-ze sie, pnij ku górze,
Chmielu, nieboze!
Ty na dół, ty ku górze,
Pnij-ze sie, pnij po murze,
Chmielu, nieboze!



1. Periwinkle wreath, I had thee hung
On a wooden peg, I had thee hung
(On a wooden peg in the cottage wall,
When people came and took thee down.)

Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher,
Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher.
Creep the pole aloft,
Now thou art high, now lower,
Climb up the wall, climb higher,
Climb aloft, poor thing!

2. Oh, thou little wreath of seven herbs,
I had hidden thee for wedding time,
(I had hidden thee in the casket new,
When people came and took thee off.)

Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher,
Hop vine, poor thing, climb higher.
Creep the pole aloft,
Now thou art high, now lower,
Climb up the wall, climb higher,
Climb aloft, poor thing!

„Mój wionecku z barwinecku.“

Powoli. (♩ = 84.)

p

mf

f

ritard.

1. 2.

VI.

KOŁO MEGO OGRÓDECKA IN MY GARDEN, IN THE BOWER

Ko - ło me - go ogró - dec - ka, (Koło me - go ogró - dec - ka,
In my gar - den, in the bower, (In my garden, in the bower,
Zakwi - ta - ła ja - bło - necka, Za - kwi - ta - ła ja - bło - necka.)
Stood the ap - ple tree in flower, Stood the ap - ple tree in flower) .

*Koło mego ogródka,
(Koło mego ogródka,
Zakwitła jabłonecka,
Zakwitła jabłonecka.)*

*Bielusieńko zakwitła,
(Bielusieńko zakwitła,
Czerwone jabłuska miała,
Czerwone jabłuska miała.)*

*A wtóż mi je będzie zrywał?
(A wtóż mi je będzie zrywał,
Kiej mi się mój Jaś pogniwał,
Kiej mi się mój Jaś pogniwał.)*

In my garden, in the bower,
(In my garden, in the bower,
Stood the apple tree in flower,
Stood the apple tree in flower.)

Snow white did the blossoms shower,
(Snow white did the blossoms shower,
Apples red grew from the flower,
Apples red grew from the flower.)

Who will pluck the apples, dear me?
(Who will pluck the apples, dear me?
Johnny's cross and won't come near me,
Johnny's cross and won't come near me.)

„Koło mego ogródka.“

The musical score is written for piano and consists of five systems of staves. The first system begins with a tempo marking 'Powoli. (♩ = 194.)' and a dynamic marking 'mf'. It transitions to a second tempo 'Żywo. (♩ = 144.)'. The second system starts with 'powoli.' and a dynamic 'p'. The third system begins with 'Żywo.' and a dynamic 'mf', and ends with 'powoli.' and a dynamic 'p'. The fourth system features a dynamic 'mf' and a 'f' marking. The fifth system concludes with a dynamic 'p'. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures (2/4, 3/4), notes, rests, and slurs.

Powoli. (♩ = 194.)

mf

Żywo. (♩ = 144.)

powoli.

p

Żywo.

mf

powoli.

p

mf

f

p

VII.

KIEDYM JECHOŁ OD DZIEWECKI

WHEN I SAID GOOD-BYE AND PARTED



*Kiedym jechoł od dziewczeki,
 Brzękały mi podkówekci,
 (Brzękały, brzękały,
 Siwe ocka płakały.)*

*Siwe ocka, co płacecie,
 Kiej mnie widzieć nie będziecie,
 (Na wieki, na wieki,
 Bom jo chłopiec daleki.)*

*Mam fajecke za cholewom,
 Cy za prawom, cy za lewom,
 (Kiej wyjde na pole,
 To jom sobie zapole.)*

*Mam se kozik wyrzynany,
 Na rzemycku uwionzany,
 (Bo mi go potrzeba,
 Do komiśnego chleba.)*

When I said good-bye and parted,
 And my horse's shoes had started
 (Clattering, clattering,
 She stood weeping, little thing.)

Dear grey eyes, why are ye crying,
 I'm for ever from ye flying,
 (Far away, far away,
 Boys like me do never stay !)

In my boot, the right or left one,
 I've a pipe and put a light on,
 (When I go fields along,
 My tobacco's black and strong.)

I've a whittle, carved and pointed,
 To a strip of leather jointed,
 (Soldier's bread's hard and dry,
 That will cut it like a pie.)

„Kiedym jechoł od dziewecki.“

Żywo. (♩ = 152.)

1. *mf sfz*

1. 2. *sfz*

1. *sfz*

1. 2. *f*

VIII.

PRZYJECHOŁ DO NIJ

BOOTED AND RIBBONED



Przyjechał do niej, Pięknie ubrany, Pod zielony ganeczek (Ręcki podnosił, Pięknie się prosił O ruciany wianeczek.)
 Booted and ribboned, He came to see her (Lifted his hands up, Asking very nicely For her little myrtle wreath.)
 At her cottage on the heath,

*Przyjechał do niej,
 Pięknie ubrany,
 Pod zielony ganeczek.
 (Ręcki podnosił,
 Pięknie się prosił
 O ruciany wianeczek.)*

*Jam mu go dała,
 Bom go nieznala,
 A on mi podziękował:
 ("Dziękuję tobie,
 "Moja najmilejso,
 "Zachowam go sobie!")*

*Nie wysło wiele,
 Śtyry niedziele,
 Jak za nim posyłała:
 ("Cy nie masz kónia?
 "Cy cie ni mo doma?
 "Cy ci mama broniła?")*

*"I ja mam kónia,
 "I jestem dóma,
 "Mama nic nie broniła,
 ("Ino mi inso
 "Nad ciebie miłso,
 "Drozyne zabiegała!")*

Booted and ribboned,
 He came to see her
 At her cottage on the heath,
 (Lifted his hands up,
 Asking very nicely
 For her little myrtle wreath.)

Though I scarce knew him,
 I gave my garland,
 And he took it gratefully,
 ("Thank thee, my darling,
 My beloved maiden,
 I will keep it loyally.")

No word came from him,
 Four weeks I waited,
 More than all my heart could dree : *
 ("Hast thou no horses,
 Art thou not at home, lad,
 Does thy mother not agree?")

"Yes, I have horses,
 I am at home, too,
 And my mother does agree. . .
 (Only another,
 To my heart much dearer,
 Crossed the road I came to thee:")

*or : Till my heart grew sore in me.

„Przyjechał do niej “

Nie za wolno. (♩ = 56.)

A piano score for a piece titled "Przyjechał do niej". The score is written for piano (p) and mezzo-forte (mf) dynamics. It features a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked "Nie za wolno. (♩ = 56.)". The score consists of six systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, often featuring triplets. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a final cadence.

IX.

HEJZE INO, FIJOŁECKU LEŚNY

HEIGH HO, BLUEBELL

2 Hejze i - no, fijo - łecku leśny, Cemu - - żeś sie nie ozwinął wceśni?
Heigh! Ho! Bluebell bluebell in the bower, Why has thou not opened up thy flower?

Inoś cekot, jaze rosa zeńdzie, Jaz dziew - cyna za in - sego wyńdzie.
Dew is drying, slow thy bud to waken, And the maiden has another taken.

*Hejze ino, fijołecku leśny,
Cemużeś sie nie ozwinął wceśni?
Inoś cekot, jaze rosa zeńdzie,
Jaz dziewczyna za in-sego wyńdzie.*

*Hejze ino, Jasiu mój kochany,
Wodzili cie, od bramy do bramy,
Targali cie za sukmanke ludzie,
A dziewczyna za inksego pódzie.*

*Hejze ino, fijołecku leśny,
Cemużeś sie nie ozwinął wceśni?
Bedzies cekot, jaze rosa spadnie,
Jaz listeczek uśnienty opadnie.*

Heigh! Ho! Bluebell, bluebell in the bower.
Why hast thou not opened up thy flower?
Dew is drying, slow thy bud to waken,
And the maiden has another taken.

Heigh! Ho! Johnny, Johnny, my dear lover,
They have dragged thee all the village over,
Charmed thee, lured thee. Ah, why hast thou
tarried,
And thy lassie has another married.

Heigh! Ho! Bluebell, bluebell in the bower,
Why hast thou not opened up thy flower?
Thou wouldst linger till the dew was drying,
And thy petals, poor and pale, were dying.

„Hejze ino fiolecku leśny.“

Tempo umiarkowane. (♩ = 92.)

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six systems of staves. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The third system features a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The fourth system includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. The fifth system continues the piece. The sixth system concludes with a *ritard* (ritardando) marking followed by *a tempo* (return to tempo).

X.

NIEDALEKO JEZIORA BY THE LAKE ON YONDER LEA

2 . Nieda - leko je - zio - ra, Stała lipka zie - lo - na,
By the lake on yon - der lea, Stood the greening lin - den tree,
(A na tej lip - ce, na tej zie - lo - nej, - Spiewajom se ptas - ko - wie.)
(And in the bran - ches Of that greening linden Sings the mavis mer - ri - ly.)

*Niedaleko jeziora,
Stała lipka zielona,
(A na tej lipce, na tej zielonej,
Spiewajom se ptaskowie.)*

*Nie byli to ptaskowie,
Ino kawalirowie,
(I tak sobie radzom,
O jednej dziewczynie,
Wtóremu sie dostanie.)*

*Jeden mówi: "Mojaz-to!"
Drugi mówi: "Jak Bóg do."
(A trzeci mówi: "Serdusko kochane,
Cemużeś mi tak smutno?")*

By the lake on yonder lea,
Stood the greening linden tree,
(And in the branches
Of that greening linden
Sings the mavis merrily.)

What you thought were singing birds,
Were the village bachelors,
(Gossiping and guessing,
Who would take the blessing
In the kirk with Jenny Lee.)

One of them said: "She's my own."
Said the next: "God knows alone."
(And the third was sighing:
"Heart, why art thou crying,
Why doest thou so sadly moan?")

„Niedaleko jeziora.“

Tempo marsza. (♩ = 116.)

mf

p

mf

f

1. 2.