

## “I Hear America Singing” Walt Whitman

I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear,  
Those of mechanics, each one singing his as it should  
    be blithe and strong,  
The carpenter singing as he measures his plank or  
    beam,  
The mason singing his as he makes ready for work, or  
    leaves off work,  
The boatman singing what belongs to him in his boat,  
    the deckhand singing on the steamboat deck,  
The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench, the  
    hatter singing as he stands,  
The woodcutter's song, the ploughboy's on his way in  
    the morning, or at noon intermission or at sundown,  
The delicious singing of the mother, or of the young  
    wife at work, or of the girl sewing or washing,  
Each singing what belongs to him or her or to none  
    else,  
The day what belongs to the day--at night the party of  
    young fellows, robust, friendly,  
Singing with open mouths their strong melodious  
    songs.