

# Вербовая дощечка

## Verbovaya Doschekka

Українська народна пісня  
Ukrainian Folksong  
Transcribed by Sam Hyson

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of six staves. The Solo part is on a treble clef staff. The first Alto part is on a treble clef staff and includes vocalizations 'Eh...' and 'Eh...'. The second Alto part is on a treble clef staff. The Bass part is on a bass clef staff. The final Bass part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below each staff in both Ukrainian and English.

Solo  
Вер бо ва я до щеч ка до щеч ка Бі ля мо го мо стеч ка мо стеч ка  
Ver-bo-va-ya do-schek-ka do-schek-ka Bi-lya mo-ho mo-stech-ka mo-stech-ka

(Alto)  
Е... до щеч ка  
Eh... do-schek-ka

(Alto)  
Вер бо ба я до щеч ка до щеч ка Бі ля мо го мо стеч ка мо стеч ка  
Ver-bo-va-ya do-schek-ka do-schek-ka Bi-lya mo-ho mo-stech-ka mo-stech-ka

Alto  
Вер бо ва я до щеч ка Бі ля мо го мо стеч ка  
Ver-bo-va-ya do-schek-ka Bi-lya mo-ho mo-stech-ka

(Bass)  
Вер бо ба я до щеч ка Бі ля мо го мо стеч ка мо стеч ка  
Ver-bo-va-ya do-schek-ka Bi-lya mo-ho mo-stech-ka mo-stech-ka

Bass  
Вер бо ва я до щеч ка Бі ля мо го мо стеч ка  
Ver-bo-va-ya do-schek-ka Bi-lya mo-ho mo-stech-ka

Вербовая дощечка, дощечка,  
Біля мого мостечка, мостечка.

Verbovaya doschekka, doschekka,  
Bilya moho mostechka, mostechka.

*The willow board,  
Near my little bridge.*

На все поле леліє, леліє,  
Звідки милий приїде, приїде?

Na vse pole leliye, leliye,  
Zvidky mylyu pryuide, pryuide?

*In the field it lies,  
When will my love come by?*

Звідки милий приїде, приїде?  
Що настощці привезе, привезе?

Zvidky mylyu pryuide, pryuide?  
Scho nastochtsi pryveze, pryveze?

*When will my love come by?  
What will he bring to me?*

Червоні чоботи, чоботи,  
До ліпшої роботи, роботи.

Chervoniyi choboty, choboty,  
Do lipshoyi roboty, roboty.

*Red boots,  
For better work.*

Вербовая дощечка, дощечка,  
Біля мого мостечка, мостечка.

Verbovaya doschekka, doschekka,  
Bilya moho mostechka, mostechka.

*The willow board,  
Near my little bridge.*

This spring song is traditionally sung during the "Willow Board" game, in which two lines of children (usually girls) join hands, one girl walks across the bridge formed by their arms (while two additional children hold her hands to help her balance), and (sometimes) each pair of girls in the line, once passed by, rushes to the front of the line and joins hands again so that the girl walking can continue indefinitely. The game is thought to be an ancient tradition symbolizing the sun walking a bridge across the sky or a young girl's passage across the bridge into married life.

This transcription is based on a recording by the Veryovka Ukrainian Folk Choir, and is similar to a version featured in the Soviet film *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors*. In the Veryovka recording, *all* of the altos and basses switch to the alternate lines (small staves) on the 3rd and 5th verses; on all other verses, they sing only the main lines. Also on the 3rd verse, the soloist either rests or joins one of the alternate alto lines.