

### song for the new year

one evening so silent as I was out walking  
I spied an old woman sat down by a tree  
and as I drew nigh her I could hear her soft talking  
these wishes she made for the child on her knee

for the child on her knee  
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first I'll wish that in peace you may always be living  
for never to kill at a sergeant's command  
for king and for country's no reason for giving  
your life and your blood in some far away land

some far away land  
some far away land  
your life and your blood in some far away land

may you be your own master let no man control you  
whether tyrant of government factory or farm  
no matter the wages they'll pay to console you  
to slavery's orders ne'er lift a strong arm

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good health be your fortune no gift can excel it  
but guard it from those who would take it away  
in the mills mines and factories they'll force you to sell it  
for industry's profit most dearly you'll pay

most dearly you'll pay  
most dearly you'll pay  
for industry's profit most dearly you'll pay

and the last of my hopes is for friendship and kindred  
for the love of companions is our greatest need  
and though you may live to the age of 100  
it's young you'll remain while friendships succeed

while friendship's succeed  
while friendship's succeed  
it's young you'll remain while friendships succeed

so now lads and lasses  
come fill up your glasses  
and drink a good health to our children so dear  
hail and farewell to the old year that passes  
to friends and to loved ones a happy new year

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to friends and to loved ones a happy new year