

## SACRED GROVE SONG LYRICS

PARTS: Kathleen & Cam sing low parts. Cindy & Bernadette (&Erin?) sing melody. Julia (&Erin?) sing high parts. Laura and Doreen sing parts as needed.

1. WELCOME SONG by Laura Sandage. Guitar (Laura), Percussion (Cam?)  
Any/all sing as guests are arriving. **Melody/Low /High parts.**

**Welcome, we have been waiting for you  
The trees here have been waiting for you  
The land here has been waiting for you  
Welcome to the Sacred Grove**

2. MAKE A LITTLE MUSIC by Doreen Conte. Guitar (Laura). **Melody/High**  
Sing-along song as part of opening. Hand/body motions for verses?

Make a little music for the **trees around us now**  
Make a little music for the trees  
Make a little music for the **trees around us now**  
Make a little music for the trees

**Subsequent verses replace the bold words with:**

... **roots and for the bark**  
... **heartwood deep inside**  
... **branches and the leaves**  
... **canopy so high**

3. ANYWHERE I AM by Kate Munger (some words changed). **Melody**  
Music while people are tending tree shrines  
Guitar (Laura), Doreen, available voices

Anywhere I am can be holy forest  
Anywhere I stand under **willow tree**  
Peace and quiet can be anywhere I am  
Peace and quiet within me

**Subsequent verses replace the bold words with:**

... **redwood tree**  
... **sycamore tree**  
... **redbud tree**

4. TREES GROW SLOW by Laurence Cole. **Choruses: Melody/Low/High parts**  
Continued music while tending tree shrines  
Drum (Laura). Verses=Doreen melody/ Laura high/(Cam or Kathleen low?)

VERSE 1 Sometimes we wonder, a worried wonder, what more can we do?  
In all our longing to bring healing to this land, will we last long enough to see it thru?  
From all our giving, all our passion, all our care, when we're gone will something  
good be left behind?  
Then we hear a voice from deep inside. Sweet, simple words come to ease our minds  
**Trees grow slow, and trees grow strong**

**And trees sway with the wind their whole lives long  
And trees hold the ground as they reach for the sky  
And fallen trees still feed the seeds they cast before they die**

VERSE 2 We wander to and fro. We stay a while then go, burn more holes in our boots  
In all our going, what we want to know: will our souls ever put down roots?  
Is there a somewhere we'll know we're finally home, feeling this is the place where we  
belong?  
Then we hear a voice so clear and strong. "Turn off your mind, listen to this song"

### **Chorus**

VERSE 3 We let the fences fall, what stands between us all, and sense the veil, thin.  
The night dark raven calls & tilts his wing & sends a bolt of wild wisdom thru our skin  
The winter wren is trilling out its song and it fills our hearts up to the brim  
The whole living world just takes us in. One more time let the song begin.

### **Chorus**

5. THE SUN GOING DOWN (trad.? camp song)  
Last song of shrine tending>> segue into campfire sing-along mode  
Guitar (Laura) and C Harmonica? (Erin) or Concertina (Doreen? Or willing learner)  
**No set harmonies, call and response. Decide if you want to call or respond.**

1. The sun going down (the sun going down)  
**On golden wings (on golden wings)**  
The peace of evening (the peace of evening)  
**To you I sing (to you I sing)**

**Subsequent verses replace bold words with:**

**2. . . on trees so tall / . . . for one and all**  
**3. . . through leaves of green/ . . . to you I bring**  
**4. . . as branches sway / . . . at end of day**

**5. Repeat verse 1 as desired with improvised harmonies/layers**

6. BONNY PORTMORE trad. Irish  
Reflective moment after voice of log and intro to song of lament for lost old growth  
forest and sacred oak. Julia sings, Laura guitar. Possible harmonies Laura/Doreen?

O bonny Portmore, you shine where you stand  
And the more I think on you the more I think long  
If I had you now as I had once before  
All the lords in Old England would not purchase Portmore.

O bonny Portmore, I am sorry to see  
Such a woeful destruction of your ornament tree  
For it stood on your shore for many's the long day  
Till the long boats from Antrim came to float it away.

All the birds in the forest they bitterly weep

Saying, "Where shall we shelter or where shall we sleep?"  
For the Oak and the Ash, they are all cutten down  
And the walls of bonny Portmore are all down to the ground.

7. TREES CAN ONLY BE AS STRONG by Doreen Conte, trad. melody.  
As part of hand dance and education about tree communication. Audience is dancing and/or singing along. Lead singer(s) handle verses, all join on refrains. Laura descant Guitar (Laura), Drums (Doreen, Cindy?) Instrumental time between each sung line.

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them. (refrain)**

Trees can live a very long time. Five times longer than we humans

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

Trees can photosynthesize. They store carbon, give us oxygen.

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

Trees are social beings like us. (They) help each other stay alive.

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

Trees can share their nutrients Through their roots and fungal networks.

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

Only folks who understand Know the best ways to protect them.

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

**Trees can only be as strong as the forest that surrounds them.**

Repeat melody on ooh 6 times while Laura sings descant 2x:

By our roots we are woven

And by our hope we are searching

And by our hearts we forgive

8. TRUST YOUR HEART (REDBUD EXCERPT) by MaMuse. Guitar (Laura)  
To be sung before or during ritual blessing the baby redbud tree. Audience invited to join as they get to know it. All sing Parts on choruses. Laura/Doreen on bridges.

**Trust your heart, for it's opening**

**Trust your heart, it hears the call**

**Of the sun. Gone are the days of being small. (repeat chorus)**

(bridge) For you know that you know, and you know your heart will show you where to go, and so, go on opening up fearlessly. Ooh...

When you do what you do, and you do it true all the way,

All the world will see you through it beautifully—ee. Ah...

**Repeat chorus 2x, bridge again, chorus 2x and end.**

9. AS YOU GROW by Kri Schlafer (some words changed)  
Blessing on baby redbud tree while people tend it, all join in on refrains.  
Melody/Partial High part. Refrain after each verse. Guitar (Cindy?) Flute (Laura)

1. All the trees in the forest / all the flowers in the garden/ all the wild weeds

**They are with you as you grow**

2. All the creatures of the land / all the birds of the air / all that swims in the sea

3. All the grounding of the earth / all the freedom of the sky/ all the warmth of the sun

4. All the people of the earth / all the neighbors and friends / all who love trees

**(last refrain) WE are with you as you grow**