



## THE GYPSY'S WEDDING DAY

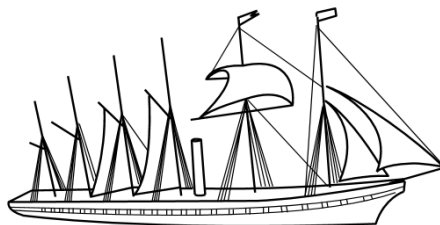
JOSEPH TAYLOR - 1908

My father is the king of the gypsies that is true  
My mother she has learn-ed me some camping for to do  
They put the pack upon me back they all did wish me well,  
So I set out for London town, some fortunes for to tell.

Now as I was a-walking up fair London street,  
A handsome young squi-er I chanc-ed for to meet;  
He view-ed my brown cheeks and he lik-ed them so well,  
He said, "Me little gypsy girl, can you me fortune tell?"

"Why yes, kind sir, give me hold of your hand,  
Why you have got houses, you've riches and you've land,  
But all those pretty ladies, you mun put them to one side.  
For I'm the little gypsy girl that is to be your bride."

Now once I was a gypsy girl but now a squi-er's bride.  
I've got servants for to wait on me and in me carriage ride,  
The bells they rung so merrily and the sweet music did play,  
And a jolly time we had upon the gypsy's wedding day.



**WATERFRONT**  
- 21ST CENTURY ROOTS MUSIC -

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## A FEW GENERAL SONGWRITING & ARRANGING TIPS

1. Silence your inner critic. She/He sits on a throne of lies.
2. Failing 1.) make a rubbish first draft, and then refine.
3. Listen to lots of stuff and steal ideas. A little plagiarism is ok (to a point!)
4. Collaborate! Share finished drafts with people who can give you an HONEST unvarnished opinion.
5. Don't be afraid of the bin (but remember #1)
6. Use your bin as a spare parts box
7. "Art is never finished, only abandoned." - Keep refining it.
8. Write as many songs as possible and only show people the good ones, or risk feeding inner critic.

## ARRANGING CHECKLIST (A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)

1. Tempo
  - Pacing.
  - How will it fit the rhythm of the lyrics? OR How will you tweak the lyrics to fit your awesome new rhythm?
  - (for a band) How will any Percussion complement and drive the song?
2. Structure
  - How will you vary each verse? (Follow the emotional flow of the lyrics?)
  - Will you build the song or come straight in?
  - Do you want a chorus or refrain?
  - What is the musical hook?
  - Breakdowns?
  - Add a tune/instrumental break? Add a solo?
3. Instrumentation
  - Major or Minor?
  - (For a soloist) How will your playing vary in each verse?
  - (For a band) Which instruments will you use?
  - (For a band) When will they come in and out?
  - Make sure the instruments work together rather than fight each other.
  - Do you want harmonies? Where?
4. Special Effects (Use in moderation)
  - Jumps?
  - Key Changes?
  - Gongs? Cannons? Pyrotechnics? Dancing Sheep? (Not available for this workshop)

