

# Katyusha

Rastsvetali yabl<sup>o</sup>ni i gr<sup>u</sup>shi,  
poplyli tum<sup>a</sup>ni nad rek<sup>o</sup>i,  
vykhadyila na byereg Katyusha,  
na vysoki byereg, na kr<sup>u</sup>toi.

Vykhadyila, pyesnyu zavodyila,  
pro stepn<sup>o</sup>vo, sizovo or<sup>l</sup>a,  
pro tav<sup>o</sup>, katorovo lubyila,  
pro tav<sup>o</sup>, tshi pyisma beregl<sup>a</sup>.

Oi, ty pyesnya, pyesen'ka dyevitshya,  
ty leti za yasnym sontsem vsled  
i boitsu na dalnem pogranyitshi  
ot Katyushi pyeredai privyet.

Pust' on vspomnit dyevushku prastuyu,  
pust' uslyshit, kak ana payot,  
pust' on zemlu byerezhot radnyu -  
a lyubov Katyusha zbyerezhot.

Otsvetali yabl<sup>o</sup>ni i gr<sup>u</sup>shi,  
uplyli tum<sup>a</sup>ni nad rek<sup>o</sup>i.  
Ukhadyila z byerega Katyusha,  
unasyila pyesen'ku damoi.

Apple trees and pear trees were a-flower,  
mist was rising over the river,  
Katyusha went out to the banks,  
to the high and steep river banks.

While she walked she sang a song  
about a grey eagle of the steppe,  
about him whom she loved,  
about him whose letters she held in her hand.

Oh, you song, you little song of a girl,  
follow the bright sun and fly  
to the warrior in the far foreign country,  
and bring him greetings from Katyusha.

He shall remember his dear girl,  
he shall hear how she sings,  
he shall defend their home,  
and Katyusha will preserve their love.

Apple and pear trees have lost their blossoms,  
the river mists have vanished.  
Katyusha left the river banks  
and took her little song back home.

Words: M. Isakovski

Music: M. Blanter

Pronunciation:

*a* as in "bar", *e* as in "bed", *i* as in "bid", *o* as in "bore", *u* as in "blue"

*y* = as in "yellow" / *y* = dull *i*, as in "bill"

*s* = always voiceless, as in "son" / *z* = voiced, as in "zone"

*sh* = voiceless, as in "mesh" / *zh* = voiced, like the *s* in "measure"

*kh* = mostly rough, like the *ch* in Scotch "loch", but smooth when "e" or "i" follows

a, e, i, o, u, y = the underlined vowel signifies the stressed syllable of a word.

Transcription and analogous translation: Kai Kracht

Comment:

First this song was written in times of peace and probably for the sentry squads at all the far frontiers of the country, but when Hitler attacked the Soviet Union in 1941 it suddenly got a new meaning. Soon everybody knew this song. The Soviet leaders produced a lot of very heroic and patriotic battle hymns, but this simple little song about the blooming apple trees at home and the girl who sent her love song to her darling remained the favorite song of the young men at the front.

Soon the lively melody became well known also in the western world. Since 1930, it was popular among German youth groups with various text versions in German language, and in the seventies a pop band used the melody to create a hit named "Kasatchok".

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