

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy
By Huddie Ledbetter (Leadbelly)
Arr. by Moira Smiley

SSAA or SAAT + body percussion

Huddie William Ledbetter (January 1888 – December 6, 1949) wrote some of the most beloved American songs while he performed and wrote in his own folk blues style. He recorded for the Lomax Collections, and became famous with the lefty folk movement of the 1930s and 1940s. This song was said to have been written about his Uncle and Uncle's wife, Silvy – this version takes much of its musical choices from Sweet Honey in the Rock's version. Body percussion is adapted from choreography of Evie Ladin.

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Bring Me Little Water, Silvy

For SSAA + Body Percussion [EM]

Huddie W. Ledbetter

Huddie W. Ledbetter (Lead Belly), arr. Moira Smiley

A Sing A with body percussion

Sop 1
Bring me lit-tle wa - ter Sil vy— Bring me lit-tle wa - ter now Bring me lit-tle wa - ter
Bring it in a bu - cket Sil vy— Bring it in a bu - cket now Bring it in a bu - cket

(Melody) Sop 2
Bring me lit-tle wa - ter Sil vy— Bring me lit-tle wa - ter now Bring me lit-tle wa - ter
Bring it in a bu - cket Sil vy— Bring it in a bu - cket now Bring it in a bu - cket

Alto 1
Bring me lit-tle wa - ter Sil vy— Bring me lit-tle wa - ter now Bring me lit-tle wa - ter
Bring it in a bu - cket Sil vy— Bring it in a bu - cket now Bring it in a bu - cket

Alto 2
Bring me lit-tle wa - ter Sil vy— Bring me lit-tle wa - ter now Bring me lit-tle wa - ter
Bring it in a bu - cket Sil vy— Bring it in a bu - cket now Bring it in a bu - cket

B Sing B with no body percussion

6
S1
Sil - vy Ev' ry lit-tle once in a while— Sil - vy come a run nin'— Bu - cket in my(her)
Sil - vy Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while— Can't you see me co min' Can't you see me

S2
Sil - vy Ev' ry lit-tle once in a while— Sil - vy come a run nin'— Bu - cket in my(her)
Sil - vy Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while— Can't you see me co min' Can't you see me

A1
Sil - vy hm Ev' ry lit-tle once in a while— Sil - vy come a run nin'— Bu - cket in my(her)
Sil - vy hm Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while— Can't you see me co min' Can't you see me

A2
Sil - vy (mmm) Ev' ry lit-tle once in a while— Sil - vy come a run nin'— Bu - cket in my(her)
Sil - vy Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while— Can't you see me co min' Can't you see me

12
S1
hand I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— fast— as I— can—
now I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while—

S2
hand I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— fast— as I— can—
now I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while—

A1
hand I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— fast— as I— can—
now I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while—

A2
hand I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— fast— as I— can—
now I will bring a lit-tle wa - ter— Ev'-ry lit-tle once in a while—

BRING ME LITTLE WATER, SILVY by Huddie William Ledbetter "Lead Belly" (January 20, 1888 – December 6, 1949)
Arranged by Moira Smiley using Body Percussion Sequence created by Evie Ladin

INTRO Body Percussion: 2x

Bring Me Little Water, Silvy -- Body Percussion

- 1 CLAP hands out in front of you (normal clap)
- 2 RIGHT HAND to RIGHT side of CHEST
- 3 LEFT HAND to LEFT side of CHEST
- 4 RIGHT FOOT stamps
- 5-6 CLAP hands out in front of you (normal clap)
- 7 torso forward to BRUSH back of HANDS on tops of THIGHS
- 8 BRUSH palms of hands back in other direction as your torso comes up

- 1-2 RIGHT FOOT stamps
- 3 throw LH down onto RH for a "tortilla-making" clap (lean to RIGHT)
- 4 LEFT FOOT stamps
- 5 throw RH down onto LH for a "tortilla-making" clap (lean to LEFT)
- 6 (same as 5) "tortilla clap" again
- 7 RIGHT FOOT stamp
- 8 CLAP hands out in front of you (normal clap)

V1 HUM complete verse melody (s2 line)

V1 Bring me little water, Sylvie
Bring me little water now
Bring me little water, Sylvie
Ev'ry little once in a while

V2 Bring it in a bucket, Sylvie
Bring it in a bucket now
Bring it in a bucket, Sylvie
Ev'ry little once in a while

CHORUS Sylvie come a runnin'
Bucket in my hand
I will bring you water
Fast as I can

REPEAT V1

Can't you see me comin'
Can't you see me now
I will bring you little water
Ev'ry little once in a while

Ooo
HUM VERSE

Ev'ry little once in a while
Ev'ry little once in a while
Ev'ry little once in a while (No Body Percussion)