

## **Pete Seeger**

# **"The River that Flows Both Ways"**

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Once the Sachems  
told a story  
of a land the great spirits blessed.  
And the people followed the legend  
from the great waters in the West.  
And they stopped where they found that the fishin' was  
good,  
earth was fertile,  
and game ran in the woods.  
And now, I could be happy spending my days on the  
river that flows both ways.  
I could be happy spending my days on the river that  
flows both ways.  
First came the trappers,  
next came the traders.  
Their own fortunes  
were fortified.  
And the valley  
treated them kindly,  
so the farmers followed close behind.  
Then the sloop sail was laden round the battery  
with flour from Yonkers,  
furs from Albany.  
And I could be happy just spending my days on the  
river that flows both ways.  
Yes, I could be happy spending my days on the river  
that flows both ways.  
Writers and painters  
have shown its beauty  
in its waters and on the shore.  
While musicians  
sing its praises,  
keep alive the rivers lure.  
With the sunsetin' golden o'er the Palisades,  
afternoon ends  
the daylight fades.  
And I could be happy spending my days on the river  
that flows both ways.  
I could be happy spending my days on the river that  
flows both ways.  
N' Maybe its the moonshine,  
maybe its the starlight,

reflected off good old Haverstraw bay.  
Maybe its the fog that rolls off the catskill mountains  
at the break of a brand new day.  
But apple cider and pumpkins,  
strawberries and corn,  
make the people of the river  
glad they were born.

And now I could be happy spending my days on the  
river that flows both ways.  
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flows both ways.  
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