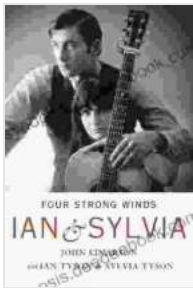


# Four Strong Winds: Ian and Sylvia's Timeless Masterpiece

Ian and Sylvia's "Four Strong Winds" is a folk classic that has touched the hearts of generations of listeners. This timeless song speaks to the universal themes of loss, longing, and the resilience of the human spirit. Written by Ian Tyson, one half of the iconic Canadian folk duo, "Four Strong Winds" has been covered by countless artists, including Neil Young, Bob Dylan, and Emmylou Harris, yet Ian and Sylvia's original recording remains the definitive version.



## Four Strong Winds: Ian and Sylvia by John Einarson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 5934 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 354 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



## The History of "Four Strong Winds"

Ian Tyson wrote "Four Strong Winds" in 1961 while living in Greenwich Village, New York City. The song was inspired by the many friends and fellow musicians he had left behind in Canada when he moved to the United States. Tyson later recalled how he was feeling homesick and lonely in New York, and that he wrote the song as a way to express his feelings of loss and longing.

Tyson initially performed "Four Strong Winds" at folk clubs in Greenwich Village. The song quickly gained popularity, and it was soon recorded by Ian and Sylvia for their 1963 album, *Four Strong Winds*. The album was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to launch Ian and Sylvia into the forefront of the folk music revival.

## The Lyrics and Interpretation of "Four Strong Winds"

The lyrics of "Four Strong Winds" are simple and direct, yet they convey a deep and powerful message. The song begins with the narrator describing how he is leaving his home and everything he knows behind.

Four strong winds that blow lonely  
Seven seas that run high  
All those things that I love

The narrator then goes on to list all the things he will miss, including his family, his friends, and the place where he grew up.

I'm goin' where the water's cold  
I'm goin' where the winds blow cold  
I'm goin' where the mountains are high

The song ends with the narrator expressing his hope that he will find a new home somewhere where he can belong.

Oh, blow, blow, blow your trumpets, blow  
For the mountains cold and clear  
For the valleys green and deep

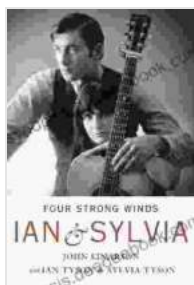
The lyrics of "Four Strong Winds" are full of imagery that evokes a sense of loss and longing. The narrator's journey is a metaphor for the journey that we all must take at some point in our lives. We must leave our homes and everything we know behind, and we must face the challenges that life

throws our way. But even in the face of adversity, we must never give up hope. We must always believe that we will find a new home somewhere where we can belong.

## The Legacy of "Four Strong Winds"

"Four Strong Winds" has been covered by countless artists over the years, including Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Emmylou Harris, and Joan Baez. It has also been featured in films and television shows, and it has been translated into dozens of languages. The song's enduring popularity is a testament to its timeless message of loss, longing, and resilience.

"Four Strong Winds" is more than just a folk song. It is a piece of art that speaks to the human condition. It is a song that reminds us that we are all connected, and that we must never give up hope.

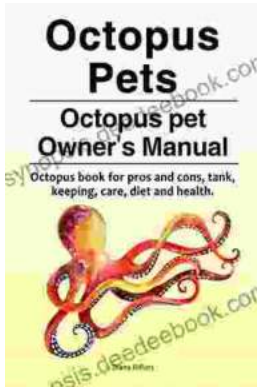


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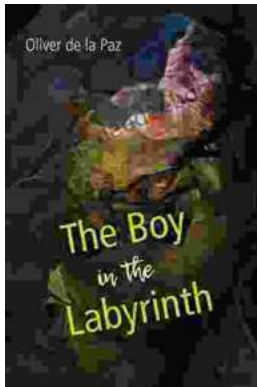
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