

The Vagabond

Text by *Robert Louis Stevenson* (1850-1894) [Br]

Set by *Noble Cain* (1896-1977) [Am], in the collection *Music of Many Lands and Peoples*; *Sir Walford Davies* (1869-1941) [Br]; *Graham Peel* (1878-1937) [Br]; *Oley Speaks* (1874-1948) [Am]; *Ralph Vaughan Williams* (1872-1958) [Br], from *Songs of Travel*, #1

Give to me the life I love,
[gɪv tu mi ðʌ laɪf ʔaɪ lʌv]

Let the lave go by me,
[lɛt ðʌ leɪv goʊ baɪ mi]

Give the jolly heaven (heav'n) above,
And the byway nigh me.
Bed in the bush with stars to see,
Bread I dip in the river—
There's the life for a man like me,
There's the life for ever.

Let the blow fall soon or late,
Let what will be o'er me;
Give the face of earth around,
And the road before me.
Wealth I seek not, hope nor love,
Nor a friend to know me;
All I seek, the heaven above,
And the road below me.

Or let autumn fall on me
Where afield I linger,
Silencing the bird on tree,
Biting the blue finger.
White as meal the frosty field—
Warm the fireside haven...

The entire text to this title with the complete
IPA transcription is available for download.

Thank you!

