

Wassail song (Avening Wassail)

1. Was - sa - il, was - sa - il all o - ver the town. Our toast it is white and our
ale it is brown. Our bowl it is made of some may-pol - in tree, with the was - sail - ing

Chorus verse 1

bowl we'll drink to thee. Drink un - - to thee, we'll
drink un - to thee, with a way - sail - ing bowl, we'll drink to thee.

2. Here's to Broad and to his long 'harn'.
Pray God send our master a good crop of 'carn'.
A good crop of carn that we may all see.
With the wassailing bowl, I'll drink to thee. (repeat last 2 lines)
3. Yure's to Broad and to his right eye.
Pray God send our mistress a good Christmas pie.
A good Christmas pie as we may all see.
With the wassailing bowl, I'll drink to thee. (repeat last 2 lines)
4. Here's to Broad and to his right ear.
Pray God send our master a happy New Year.
A happy New Year that we may all see.
With the waysailing bowl, I'll drink to thee. (repeat last 2 lines)
5. Here's to old Broad and to his right hoof.
Pray God send our master a good crop of roots.
A good crop of roots and another of hay
To help the cold stormy winter away. (repeat last 2 lines)
6. Yure's to Whitefoot and to her long tail.
Pray God send our master 'ave ne'er a 'oss fail.
But a bowl of strong beer to begin the New Year.
And then you shall hear our jolly wassail. (repeat last 2 lines)
7. Come butler, come fill us a bowl of your best.
I hope your soul in heaven may rest.
But if you do fill us a bowl of your small,
Then down falls butler, bowl and all. (repeat last 2 lines)

8. If there's any fair maiden which we hope there's some
Pray never let the young men stand on the cold stone,
But step to the door and draw back the pin,
And the fairest maid in the house, let us all in.

Chorus to verse 8:

Yea let us all in and see how we do.

Yea merry boys and welcome too.

Source: Sung by George Herbert, High St, Avening.

Learnt from old singers forty years previously and never saw it in print.

Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.

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