

I love to tell the story

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Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911, b. Clapham, England. Father was a banker. Wealthy Anglican Evangelicals. Kate taught Bible classes to rich and poor girls in London, visited the sick, and supported foreign missions.

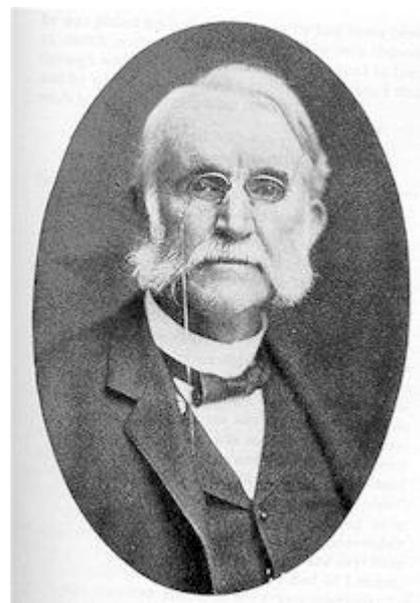
Written in 1866 when Kate was ill. Perhaps stimulated by C.H. Spurgeon in a sermon titled "The Old, Old Story."

As many as seventy-four stanzas in some versions of the poem.



HANKEY

William G. Fischer, 1835-1912, b. Baltimore and lived in Philadelphia. Bookbinder who studied music. 1858-1868 taught music at Girard College, then opened a successful retail piano store. Song leader at revivals, including a chorus of a thousand when Dwight Moody and Ira Sankey visited Philadelphia.



"I love to tell the story" is in the public domain.

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

1. Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.
 2. Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it, like the rest.

1. I love to tell the sto-ry, Be - cause I know it's true;
 2. And when, in scenes of glo-ry, I sing the new, new song,

1. It sat - is - fies my long-ings As noth - ing else would do.
 2. 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

I love to tell the sto-ry; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.

To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.

Blessed Assurance

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Fanny Crosby, 1820-1915. Best-known writer of gospel hymns. Blind since six weeks of age, and married the blind musician Alexander Van Alstyne. Discovered her “hymn-writing vocation” at age forty-four. She worked among the marginalized, and wanted simple and direct hymns. Wrote at least eighty-five hymns, although possibly more because she had as many as two hundred pen names.

This is the “archetypal gospel song.”

Phoebe Knapp wrote the tune and played it for Crosby, asking her what it meant. Crosby wrote this hymn. Became part of Dwight Moody's and Ira Sankey's revivals in England and the United States, also in Billy Graham's crusades.



ASSURANCE

Phoebe Knapp, 1839-1908. Grew up wealthy in Manhattan. At age sixteen married Joseph Fairchild Knapp, a lithographer, who made a fortune and became president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. She wrote over five hundred gospel hymns and tunes.



"Blessed assurance" is in the public domain.

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1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, — Vi - sions of
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, — I in my

1. fore-taste of glo - ry di - vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 2. rap - ture now burst on my sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God, — Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood. —
 2. bove — Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. —
 3. bove, — Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. —

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my

sav - ior all the day long;— This is my sto - ry, this is my
 song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long. —

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Love lifted me". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Love lifted me

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James Rowe, 1865-1933, English. His father was a copper miner.

Rowe emigrated to the United States in 1889 and became a railroad worker in New York, then he became an inspector for the Hudson River Humane Society. Later he went to music publishers in Texas and Tennessee. He became a full-time writer of hymns and he edited music journals. Later in life he moved to Vermont to live with his daughter, who was an artist. Together they made greeting cards.

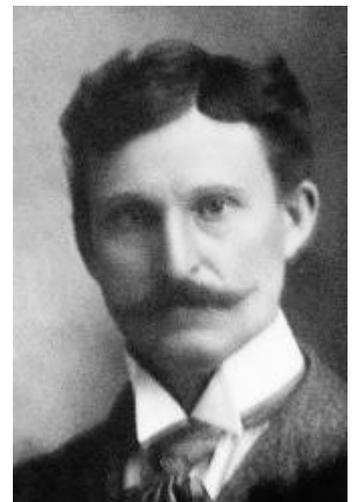
Inspired by two stories, both in the Gospel of Matthew. First is the story of the disciples in their boat in a storm and Jesus walking on the water to save them. Peter attempted to walk on the water, too, but started to sink until Jesus took his hand and led him back to the boat. Second is the story of the disciples in a boat, Jesus sound asleep, and a storm raging around them. The disciples wake Jesus and he quells the storm.



I WAS SINKING DEEP IN SIN

Howard E. Smith, 1863-1918, American. Musician in Connecticut. He suffered from arthritis, but was still able to play piano.

Smith and Rowe wrote this hymn together. According to Rowe's daughter: "I can see them now, my father striding up and down humming a bar or two, and Howard E. playing it and jotting it down... the two huddled together, working line by line, bar by bar, composing this hymn in tandem."



"Love lifted me" is in the public domain.

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1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, Far from the peace - ful shore, ___
 2. All my heart to Him I give, Ev - er to Him I'll cling, ___
 3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly saves; ___

1. Ver - y deep - ly stained with - in, Sink - ing to rise no more; ___
 2. In His bless - ed pres - ence live, Ev - er His prais - es sing. ___
 3. He will lift you by His love Out of the an - gry waves. ___

1. But the mas - ter of the sea Heard my de - spair - ing cry, ___
 2. Love so might - y and so true Mer - its my soul's best songs; ___
 3. He's the mas - ter of the sea, Bil - lows His will o - bey; ___

1. From the wa - ters lift - ed me— Now safe am I. ___
 2. Faith - ful, lov - ing ser - vice, too, To Him be - longs. ___
 3. He your sav - ior wants to be— Be saved to - day. ___

Love lift - ed me, ___ Love lift - ed me, ___
 Love lift - ed e - ven me, Love lift - ed e ven me, When noth - ing

1. else could help, Love lift - ed me; ___ Love lift - ed me. ___
 2. Love lift - ed me. ___

Thank you for joining us for Song Lovers Online #7. We pray you're well, and look forward to the time when we can assemble and sing these songs as a community. Peace.

Research from Westermeyer, Paul: Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Minneapolis, Augsburg Fortress, 2010 and

Young, Carlton R.: Companion to the United Methodist Hymnal, Nashville, Abingdon Press, 1993 and

Many interesting web sites.