

ROCK ABOUT MY SARO JANE

Traditional Old-Time and Bluegrass Song; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Uncle Dave Macon-1927; New Lost City Ramblers; Kingston Trio; Red Clay Ramblers; Red Smiley and the Bluegrass Cut-Ups; **OTHER NAMES:** Saro Jane; My Sarah Jane; **NOTES:** The song has been adapted by Bob Dylan and also others in the bluegrass category including the Kingston Trio, Red Clay Ramblers, Red Smiley and the Bluegrass Cut-Ups. Uncle Dave Macon's classic 1927 version indicates an earlier Civil War origin. Macon learned it from black stevedores on the Cumberland River in the 1880s.

I've got a wife and-a five lit-tle chil-lun, Be-lieve I'll make a trip on the big Mac-mil-lan
 O Sa-ro Jane! O there's noth-ing to do but to set down and
 sing, And rock a-bout my Sa-ro Jane. O
 rock a-bout my Sa-ro Jane. O rock a-bout, my
 Sa-ro Jane. O there's noth-ing to do but to set down and
 sing And rock a-bout my Sa-ro Jane.

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Em G Em
 I've got a wife and a five little chillun, Believe I'll make a trip on the big MacMillan, oh Saro Jane!

G C G Em G D G
Chorus: Oh there's nothing to do but to sit down and sing, and rock about my Saro Jane.

C G
 Oh rock about, my Saro Jane, oh rock about, my Saro Jane.

C G Em G D G
 Oh there's nothing to do but to sit down and sing, and rock about my Saro Jane.

Boiler busted and the whistle done blowed, The head captain done fell overboard, Oh Saro Jane! *Chorus*

Engine gave a crack and the whistle gave a squall, The engineer gone to the hole in the wall, Oh Saro Jane!

Yankees build boats for to shoot them rebels, My musket's loaded and I'm gonna hold her level, Oh Saro Jane!