

Union maid

Words by Woody Guthrie
Tune: Redwing
Arranged by Murray Chase

In Oklahoma City, in 1940, Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger were singing at a union meeting. Some company thugs came in and stood at the back of the hall, obviously waiting for a signal to break it up. But nothing happened. Woody figured the reason was that the meeting was a real family affair, with young folks and old and the women there in full force. Next morning Pete found the words to this now-famous song stuck in the typewriter

Vigorously, moderate tempo

There once was a un - ion maid, She nev - er was a -

fraid Of goons and ginks and com - pa - ny finks, And the dep - u - ty sher - iff s that

made the raids; She went to the un - ion hall When a meet - ing it was

called, And when the com - p'ny boys came 'round, She al - ways stood her ground,

CHORUS

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm stick - ing to the un - ion,

I'm stick-ing to the un - ion, I'm stick-ing to the un - ion,
 Oh, you can't scare me, I'm stick-ing to the un - ion,
 I'm stick-ing to the un - ion 'Til the day I die.

Men

2. This union maid was wise
 To the tricks of the company spies.
 She'd never be fooled by the com-
 pany stools;
 She'd always organize the guys.
 She'd always get her way
 When she struck for higher pay.
 She'd show her card to the company guard,
 And this is what she'd say: *cut off*
 CHORUS

For history's sake:

When the union boys they seen
 This pretty little union queen
 Stand up and sing in the deputies' face,
 They laughed and yelled all over the place.
 And you know what they done,
 These two-gun company thugs?
 When they heard this union song
 They tucked their tails and run.
 CHORUS

*A new verse for the 1980s:**

Women

You women who want to be free,
 Just take a little tip from me:
 Break out o' that mold we've all been sold;
 You got a fightin' history.
 The fight for women's rights
 With workers must unite
 Like Mother Jones, bestir them bones
 To the front of every fight.
 CHORUS

* I wish I could remember who wrote this one!—P.S.