



# PETE SEEGER

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Pete Seeger is an American singer who spent his career popularizing folk music and using his music to advocate for social change. He held deep left-wing political views and sang for the labour movement, civil right marches, anti-Vietnam War rallies, environmental causes, and antiwar causes. Pete Seeger wrote the song "We Shall Overcome" which is recognized as an anthem for the Civil Rights Movement.

Unfortunately, he passed away in 2014 at the age of 94.



## Selected Quotations

- "My job, is to show folks there's a lot of good music in this world, and if used right it may help to save the planet."
- "Once upon a time, wasn't singing a part of everyday life as much as talking, physical exercise, and religion? Our distant ancestors, wherever they were in this world, sang while pounding grain, paddling canoes, or walking long journeys. Can we begin to make our lives once more all of a piece? Finding the right songs and singing them over and over is a way to start. And when one person taps out a beat, while another leads into the melody, or when three people discover a harmony they never knew existed, or a crowd joins in on a chorus as though to raise the ceiling a few feet higher, then they also know there is hope for the world."
- "A good song reminds us what we're fighting for."
- "I've never sung anywhere without giving the people listening to me a chance to join in - as a kid, as a lefty, as a man touring the U.S.A. and the world, as an oldster. I guess it's kind of a religion with me. Participation. That's what's going to save the human race."



## Online Materials:

- [Pete Seeger - "Forever Young" \(2012\)](#)
- [The Story Behind "Forever Young" by Pete Seeger \(2012\)](#)
- [The Bard Of Protest, Pete Seeger CBC Radio Podcast \(2020\)](#)

## Further reading

- Pete Seeger - The Storm King: Stories, Narratives, Poems - Spoken Word Set to a World of Music (2013)
- Pete Seeger: Storm King, Vol. 2 (2016)