

Row On Row On

Words from ship's log of the Three Brothers whaling ship operating from Nantucket in 1846. Huntington, Songs the Whalemen Sang (1964) p290. Roud 2084. Original tune by Tim Laycock.

Clouds are upon the summer sky
There's thunder in the wind
Pull on pull on and homeward hie
Nor give one look behind

Chorus

*Row on, row on
Another day may shine with brighter light
Ply ply the oars and pull away
There's dawn beyond the night*

Bear where thou goest the words of love
Say all that words can say
Changeless affections strength to prove
But speed upon the way

Oh like yon river will I glide
To where my heart would be
My barque should soon outsail the tide
That hurries to the sea

But yet a star shines constant still
Through yonder cloudy sky
And hope as bright my bosom fills
From faith that cannot die

Row on row on God speed the way
Thou must not linger here
Storms hang about the closing day
Tomorrow may be clear

<Repeat verse 1>