

AN DER SCHÖNEN BLAUNEN DONAU [ON THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE DANUBE] Johann Strauss II

Danube so blue and beautiful, you surge through valley and meadow. Vienna greets you, silver ribbon which unites the land. You bring happiness to all on your journey from the distant Black Forest to the sea; castles greet you from on high in the morning sunrise and are reflected in the dance of your waves. The water sprites give notice to all of what you view. Even in times long past songs have been sung to your glory. You know your good brother, The Rhine, well and need not envy him. United with your brother, you bring joy and courage to our homeland in times of danger. On your waters travel little ships with lovers whispering to each other. Oh heaven, bless the pairs and protect them always, young blood, fresh courage, and joyful love are brought to the world through your waters.

Now sing a happy, blissful song that is true in melody and word. Your breezes dance through the city of Vienna, which arises anew in complete splendor, and they bind us together and conquer our hearts. Our conclusion brings you another greeting, our dear Danube. Whatever the day may bring, we remain faithful and united for all time. [Translation by Adam Bors]