Deda was young once, Deda was strong

Deda was so afraid, but not for long

They sailed from Batumi, in 1898

He stood on the deck of the old cattle boat, held his back so straight

Chorus: And the people sang "God help us"

They sang "Ai Da Loo li"

The people sang "God help us"

"Bozhe Pamagi"

Deda watched Mother Russia, fade into mists so cold

He pledged to make it to Canada, in the filthy cattle hold

He saw his mother crying, his father stood stern and strong

All around him people were praying, and singing that eternal song

Chorus: And the people sang "God help us"

They sang "Ai Da Loo li"

The people sang "God help us"

"Bozhe Pamagi"

They sang in fear and sorrow, the Atlantic swirled and rolled

They sang for the brethren left behind, and for the days of old

They prayed for the dead they buried at sea, and for the land from which they fled

They prayed for a new life in Canada, not knowing what lay ahead

Chorus: And the people sang "God help us"

They sang "Ai Da Loo li"

The people sang "God help us"

"Bozhe Pamagi"

Repeat Chorus: