

Netherlands

Het Wilhelmus (The William)

Anon (1574)

♩ = 120

6

12

woodunit?

1st Verse

*William of Nassau am I,
of Dutch blood.
Loyal to the fatherland
I will remain until I die.
A prince of Orange am I,
free and fearless.
The king of Spain
I have always honoured.*

*"Het Wilhelmus" is the oldest national anthem in the world.
It was first written down in 1574 and used on royal occasions for
centuries before becoming the official anthem by law in 1932.
"Het Wilhelmus" has 15 verses which form an acrostic.
The 1st letter of each verse forms the name 'Willem van Nassou,'
the title of the king of the original song.*