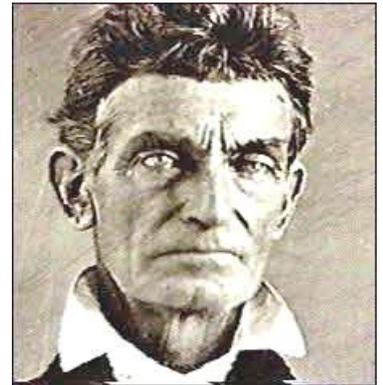


John Brown's body lies *a-mouldering* in the grave  
but his *soul* goes marching on.  
Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!  
He's gone to be a soldier in the Army of the Lord...  
John Brown's *knapsack* is strapped upon his back...  
John Brown died that the slaves might be free...  
The stars above in Heaven now are looking *kindly* down...  
On the *grave* of old John Brown.

*rotting*  
*spirit*

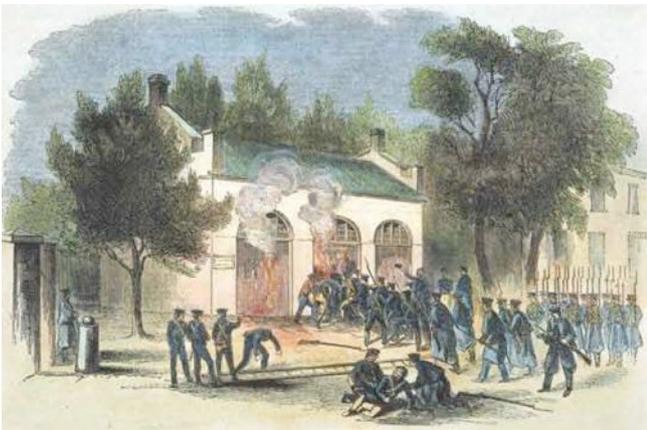
*God*  
*backpack*

*friendly*  
*tomb*



**It's a famous song. It celebrates the man who became a hero to Americans who were opposed to slavery.**

John Brown was a white man with a large family. Seeking work, he settled down in a black township. He was shocked by the way that the black slaves were treated. With five of his sons, he started illegally importing guns into Kansas to help slaves fight for their freedom. One of their attacks on some slavery supporters ended in bloodshed. The massacre made John Brown famous and feared.



In 1859 he and eighteen armed men captured a government armoury at Harpers Ferry in West Virginia, taking 60 hostages. They intended to arm the slaves and start a revolt. However, after two days soldiers stormed the armoury to free the

hostages and capture Brown. He was tried for treason and murder. He was hanged. This was just before the Civil War between North and South.

**to celebrate:** commemorate  
**opposed:** against  
**to settle down:** go to live there  
**township:** quarter, ghetto  
**to treat:** deal with  
**guns:** firearms  
**freedom:** independence  
**supporter:** fan

**bloodshed:** killing  
**feared:** scared  
**to capture:** catch  
**armoury:** army factory  
**hostage:** prisoner  
**intend:** plan  
**to arm:** get guns  
**be tried:** sentenced

**\*IRREGULAR VERBS**  
*be - was - been*  
*have - had - had*  
*lead - led - led*  
*ring - rang - rung*  
*say - said - said*  
*begin - began - begun*  
*become - became - become*

## **Change into the past tense:**

*was*

John Brown **is\*** a poor man.

He **has\*** 20 children.

He **starts** a liberation movement.

He **leads\*** a raid to Harper's Ferry.

Seven people **are\*** killed.

He **wants** rifles for the slaves.

His attack **fails**.

He **is\*** hanged.

In the North the church bells **ring\***.

In the North he **is\*** a hero.

In the South people **say\*** he is a terrorist.

President Lincoln **says\***

he **is\*** a "misguided fanatic".

Sixteen months later the Civil War **begins\***.

The song "John Brown's Body" **becomes\***

the marching song of the Union soldiers.

**\*irregular verb, see list of strong verbs**