

The New Penguin Book Of English Folk Songs Penguin

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one of the spectator's books of the year 2012 farewell and adieu to you fair spanish ladies farewell and adieu to you ladies of spain for we've received orders for to sail for old england but we hope in a short while to see you again one of the great english popular art forms the folk song can be painful satirical erotic dramatic rueful or funny they have thrived when sung on a whim to a handful of

friends in a pub they have bewitched generations of english composers who have set them for everything from solo violin to full orchestra they are sung in concerts festivals weddings funerals and with nobody to hear but the singer this magical new collection brings together all the classic folk songs as well as many lesser known discoveries complete with music and annotations on their original sources and meaning published in cooperation with the english folk dance and song society it is a worthy successor to ralph vaughan williams and a lloyd s original penguin book of english folk songs her keen eye did glitter like the bright stars by night the robe she was wearing was costly and white her bare neck was shaded with her long raven hair and they called her pretty susan the pride of kildare in association with efdss the english folk dance and song society

this collection is filled with songs that tell of the pleasures and pains of love the patterns of the countryside and the lives of ordinary people here are unfaithful soldiers ghostly lovers whalers on stormy seas cuckolds and tricksters by turns funny plain speaking and melancholic these songs evoke a lost world and with their melodies provided record a vital musical tradition generations of inhabitants have helped shape the english countryside but it has profoundly shaped us too it has provoked a huge variety of responses from artists writers musicians and people who live and work on the land as well as those who are travelling through it english journeys celebrates this long tradition with a series of twenty books on all aspects of the countryside from stargazey pie and country churches to man s relationship with nature and songs celebrating the patterns of the countryside as well as ghosts and love struck soldiers

originally published in 1915 this volume provides a concise introduction to english folk songs and folk dances

excerpt from english folk songs yes one man at all events had taken the trouble and had found out for himself that the country people in one small corner of sussex were in the habit of singing this one man was john broadwood whose name is to be honoured in the annals of english folk song who went about among the people of sussex collecting their songs which he published under the title of sussex songs in 1843 about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

excerpt from english folk song some conclusions the question too admits of no doubt folk songs genuinely and demonstrably english have already been gathered in their hundreds and of a quality at least as remarkable as their number the work of collection too on

any comprehensive scale has only just begun the larger part of rural england is still virgin soil while of those districts that have already been visited very few have as yet been explored with any degree of thoroughness the future therefore may hold still greater surprises in store for us about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

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in victorian times england was famously dubbed the land without music but one of the great musical discoveries of the early twentieth century was that england had a vital heritage of folk song and music which was easily good enough to stand comparison with those of other parts of britain and overseas cecil sharp ralph vaughan williams percy grainger and a number of other enthusiasts gathered a huge harvest of songs and tunes which we can study and enjoy at our leisure but after over a century of collection and discussion publication and performance there are still many things we don't know about traditional song where did the songs come from who sang them where when and why what part did singing play in the lives of the communities in which the songs thrived more importantly have the pioneer collectors restricted definitions and narrow focus hindered or helped our understanding this is the first book for many years to investigate the wider social history of traditional song in england and draws on a wide range of sources to answer these questions and many more

this much needed book provides valuable insights into themes and genres in popular song in the period c 1600 1900 in particular it is a study of popular ballads as they appeared on printed sheets and as they were recorded by folk song collectors vic gammon displays his interest in the way song articulates aspects of popular mentality and he relates the discourse of the songs to social history gammon discusses the themes and narratives that run through genres of song material and how these are repeated and reworked

through time he argues that in spite of important social and economic changes the period 1600 1850 had a significant cultural consistency and characteristic forms of popular musical and cultural expression these only changed radically under the impact of industrialization and urbanization in the nineteenth century the book will appeal to those interested in folk song historical popular music including church music ballad literature popular literature popular culture social history anthropology and sociology

the definitive collection of folk music one of the great english popular art forms one of the great english popular art forms the folk song can be painful satirical erotic dramatic rueful or funny this magical new collection brings together all the classic folk songs as well as many lesser known discoveries complete with music and annotations on their original sources and meaning published in cooperation with the english folk dance and song society it is a worthy successor to ralph vaughan williams and a lloyd s original penguin book of english folk songs

many of the earliest books particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive we are republishing these classic works in affordable high quality modern editions using the original text and artwork

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