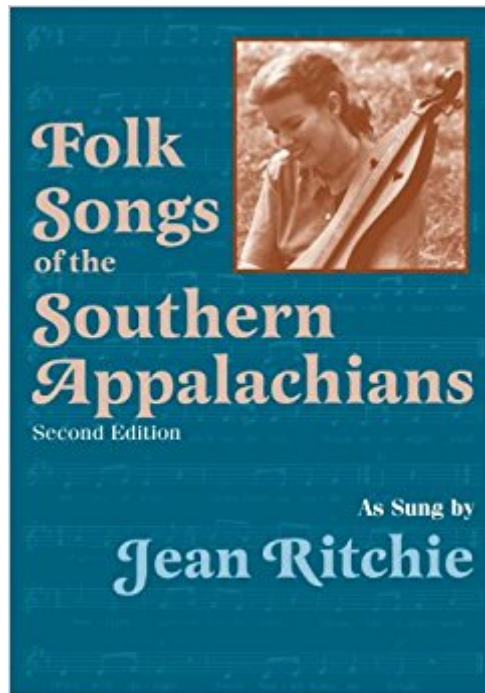


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Folk Songs Of The Southern Appalachians As Sung By Jean Ritchie



Synopsis

Jean Ritchie is the best known and most respected singer of traditional ballads in the United States. The youngest daughter of one of the most famous American ballad-singing families, the Ritchie family of Perry County, Kentucky, Jean carries on her family's legacy as a singer of folk songs and traditional ballads. The music found here tells the story of the "Singing Ritchie Family." Built upon a foundation of balladry inherited from old-world Scotland, the family's repertoire was certainly eclectic but not haphazard. The Child ballads, lyric folksongs, play party or frolic songs, Old Regular Baptist lined hymns, Native American ballads, "hant" songs, and carols brought together in this collection were assembled by family members who actively sought out fragments of tunes and completed them by adding or embellishing verses and melodies. This new edition has faithfully retained all seventy-seven line scores of the songs and added four new ones, Loving Hannah, Lovin' Henry, Her Mantle So Green, and The Reckless and Rambling Boy. The original headnotes and photographs tell the history of the song as well as how it became a part of the family's life. Chords are indicated for accompaniment, and a new audiography and videography have been added to this edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love this book because it preserves the rough edges that the music of everyday people has. If JR learned the verse to a song that didn't rhyme, she didn't "fix" it. The melodies are often asymmetrical, the ballads often have odd twists to their stories, and the emotion is just pure. If you're

looking for a book of songs for the camp-fire, this may not be it. If you're looking for the real songs of Appalachia, look no further.

As an amateur singer of folksongs, country, and "oldies", I was looking for a book with familiar tunes and lyrics. Although I only recognized a few of Ms. Ritchie's songs, I found the histories of each song very interesting. I took a chance and purchased the book, not sure of what I was getting. What I got was a nice read about the history of song, and a new interest in a person who obviously has a passion!

I originally borrowed this from a library. Years later I found a copy, and bought it on the spot. Years after that I got a copy from . Nice arrangements of old time tunes. Well worth the cost. Her other books are also worth buying. The tunes are simple with simple harmonies - a good beginning for your own versions.

I'm a big fan of Appalachian folk music. This is a great collection of songs with enough music to figure out the melodies. Its fun to pick something I've never heard and go to town on it. I have no idea if its 'correct' but who cares.

I have been looking around for just this kind of material, and came across this book. Very happy with it.

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