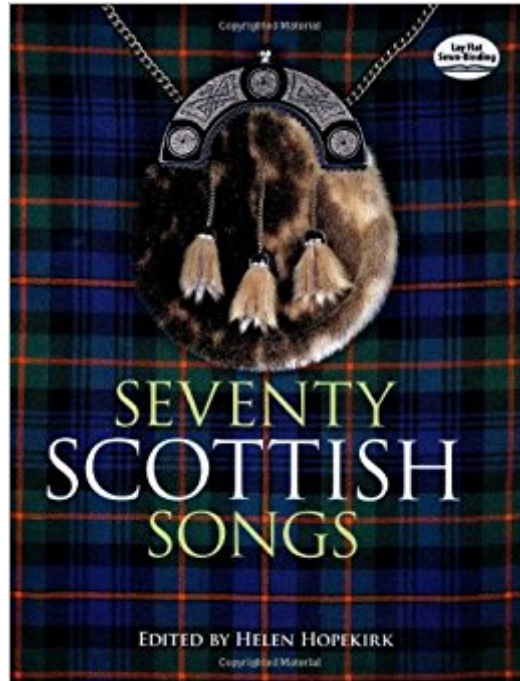


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Seventy Scottish Songs (Dover Song Collections)



Synopsis

The centuries-old Scottish song tradition includes ballads and love songs of great lyrical beauty, colorful chants of stirring patriotic fervor, songs that commemorate events in history and legend, and others that touchingly note the commonplace charms of everyday life. Here are seventy of the best songs from this great tradition, among them such favorites as: Loch Lomond (By You Bonnie Banks); Annie Laurie (Maxwellton Braes Are Bonnie); The Blue Bells of Scotland (Oh, Where, Tell Me Where); Flow Gently, Sweet Afton; Auld Lang Syne (Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot); Comin' thro' the Rye (Gin a Body Meet a Body); My Love, She's But a Lassie Yet; Oh, My Love Is Like a Red, Red Rose; Thy Cheek Is o' the Rose's Hue; Robin Adair (What's This Dull Town to Me?); Fair Helen of Kirkconnel (U Wish I Were Where Helen Lies); MacCrimmon's Lament (O'er Coolin's Face the Night Is Creeping); The Islay Maiden (Och, Och, mar tha mi!); Scots, Wha Ha'e wi' Wallace Bled; Hush-a-by, Darling; John Anderson, My Jo, John' Nae Mair We'll Meet Again; Oh, Charlie Is My Darling; Lord Gregory (Oh, Mirk, Mirk Is the Midnight Hour); and 50 more. Vocal recitalists and sing-along enthusiasts alike will find popular favorites here as well as a number of beautiful and moving songs rarely heard today. The selection includes complete lyrics and rich piano accompaniments composed by Scottish pianist and composer Helen Hopekirk.

Book Information

Series: Dover Song Collections

Paperback: 189 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (September 27, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486270297

ISBN-13: 978-0486270296

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #747,965 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #240 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Folk & Traditional](#) #292 in [Books > History > Europe > Great Britain > Scotland](#) #387 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Country](#)

Customer Reviews

Originally compiled by Helen Hopekirk in 1905, and reprinted in 1922, this collection of Scottish folk

songs is a must have for anyone interested in the folk history of the Scottish people. Hopekirk provides information about how and where she came across these songs, giving a wonderful ethnographic picture of a world 100 years gone-by. I came across this collection while searching for the music for Mairi Bhan Og (Fair Young Mary), a beautiful Scottish love song, to use at my wedding. A must-visit website for anyone interested in Scottish, Irish, Welsh or English folk music is Lesley Nelson's Website Complete with lyrics and high quality MIDI's of hundreds of songs, there is also an excellent Bibliography to such collections as this Helen Hopekirk's Seventy Scottish Songs.

The arrangements in this compilation are for piano, but other instruments are easily improvised in or can take a certain section in the piano part. That's the music portion (and I love how well it underscores the voice parts), and has some great ones like Loch Lomand (the one that goes 'you take the high road, and I'll take the low road'; I remember it from all the Looney Toons cartoons :-)), Blue Bells of Scotland, Flow Gently Sweet Afton, and Auld Lang Sine. The better part about Hopekirk's book is that she tried to preserve the language in the lyrics. One may not understand what the song is about for that, so that's what the guide in the front does for you...a dictionary of sorts. There is also a good introduction to the music she chose to include, a bit of history on a few of the songs. I wish there were a few more historical notes, but I suppose there are other books for that.

Helen Hopekirk's collection first appeared in 1905 published by the Boston firm of Oliver Ditson. Hopekirk composed music, but she was better known as one of the foremost Scottish pianists of her time. She was born in Edinburgh in 1856, and brought her love with her to the US. So it is a delight for people interested in Scottish music, and many of the lesser known songs are gems. Thankfully Dover has rescued it and made it available, as they do with so many treasures.

I take this to sing-a-longs at parties with my chorus friends. I loved that so many of the songs were new to me. The glossary of Gaelic words is a nice addition. The unanticipated way that I use this book is to improve my sight reading skills. I don't have a piano, so this is important. The songs are all so tuneful and delightful, that this practice is enjoyable.

Seventy Scottish Songs represents a labor of intense devotion and scholarship. This is a real find for lovers of Scottish song, favoring little known pieces, including exquisite lullabies, translated from

Gaelic. Helen Hopekirk was a world class concert musician and that is reflected in her choice of melodies. "Turn Ye To Me" and "Put Off and Row Wi' Speed" are both formally perfect, deeply stirring tunes. If you're looking for a trove of authentic material with the bonus of a marvelously incisive and forthright essay, you can't go wrong with this one. I'll be adding several of these songs to my repertoire.

Very good and includes ones that I know about.

Good songs and interesting notes. I would recommend it to anyone though not suitable for beginners. Also includes voice as well

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