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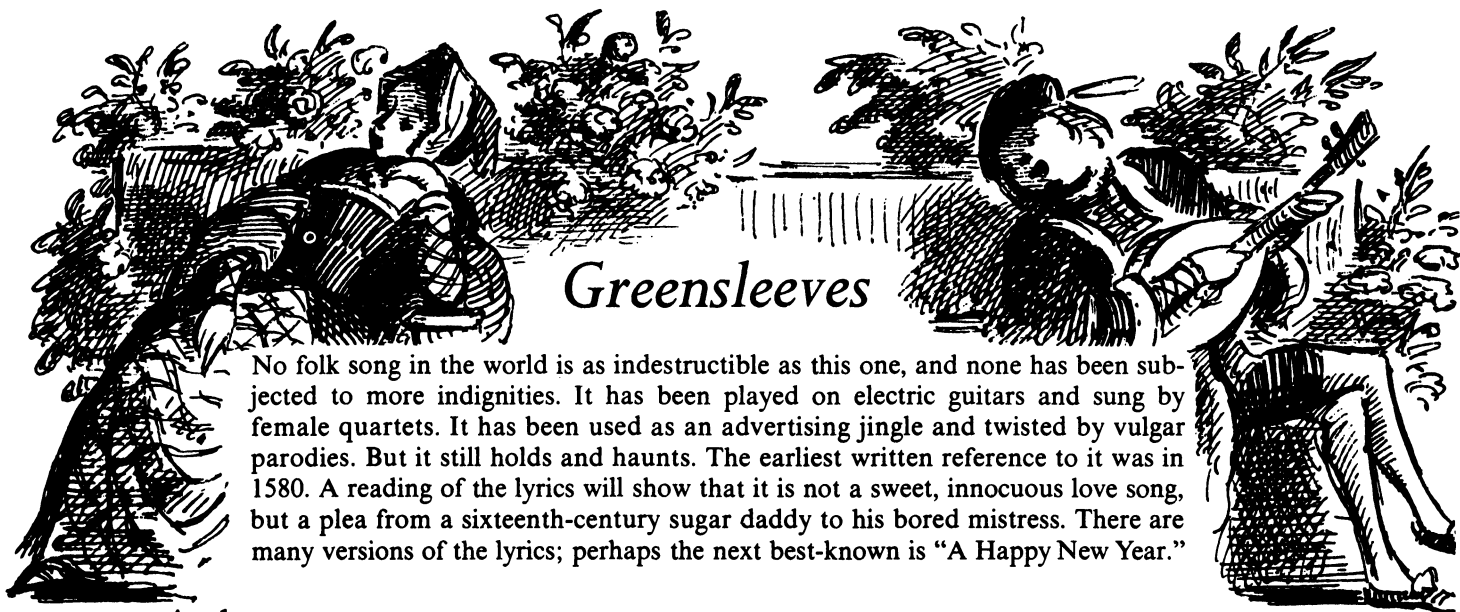
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Greensleeves

No folk song in the world is as indestructible as this one, and none has been subjected to more indignities. It has been played on electric guitars and sung by female quartets. It has been used as an advertising jingle and twisted by vulgar parodies. But it still holds and haunts. The earliest written reference to it was in 1580. A reading of the lyrics will show that it is not a sweet, innocuous love song, but a plea from a sixteenth-century sugar daddy to his bored mistress. There are many versions of the lyrics; perhaps the next best-known is "A Happy New Year."

Andante

Em D C B

A - las, my love, you do me wrong To cast me off - dis - court-eous-ly; And

mp

Em D C B Em

I have lov - éd you so long, - De - light - ing in - your com - pa - ny.