

# The Whistling Gypsy (Leo Maguire, 1951) (C)

Whistling Gypsy Rover by The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem (F) (1984)

Whistling Gypsy by The Clancy Brothers (E)

**Intro** (Last line of first verse) C G C F C F

C G C G C G C G  
A gypsy rover came over the hill, down through the valley so sha-dy.  
C G C F  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
C G C F C F  
And he won the heart of a l -a-dy.

C  
G  
F  
C  
G  
F

**Chorus** ( Play after every verse )

C G C G C G C G  
Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-doo-dah-day. Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-day-dee  
C G C F  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
C G C F C F  
And he won the heart of a l -a-dy.

C G C G C G C G  
She left her father's castle gate. She left her own fine lo - ver.  
C G C F C G C F C F  
She left her servants and her state to follow her gypsy ro - ver.

C G C G C G C G  
She left behind her velvet gown and shoes of Spanish leath - er  
C G C F  
They whistled and they sang 'till the green woods rang  
C G C F C F  
As they rode off to-ge - ther.

C G C G C G C G  
Last night, she slept on a goose feather bed with silken sheets for co - ver  
C G C F C G C F C F  
Tonight she'll sleep on the cold, cold ground, beside her gypsy lo - ver.

C G C G C G C G  
Her father saddled up his fastest steed, and roamed the valley all o - ver.  
C G C F C G C F C F  
Sought his daughter at great speed, and the whistlin' gypsy ro - ver.

C G C G C G C G  
He came at last to a mansion fine down by the river Clay - dee.  
C G C F C G C F C F  
And there was music and there was wine for the gypsy and his la - dy.

**Chorus** ( Play after every verse )

C G C G C G C G  
Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-doo-dah-day. Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-day-dee  
C G C F  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
C G C F C F  
And he won the heart of a l -a-dy.

C G C G C G C G  
"Have you forsaken your house and home? Have you forsaken your ba - by?  
C G C F C G C F C F  
Have you forsaken your husband dear, for a whistling gypsy ro - ver?"

C G C G C G C G  
"He is no gypsy, my Father," she cried, "but Lord of these lands all o - ver.  
C G C F C G C F C F  
And I shall stay 'til my dying day with my whistlin' gypsy ro - ver."

## Notes

"The Raggle Taggle Gypsy" is a very old folk song with numerous names. Hundreds of versions of the song survived in the oral tradition well into the twentieth century.

There are also several related songs including "The Whistling Gypsy" written by Leo McGuire in 1951. According to McGuire, the song was written on a dare - that he could write a popular Irish song with a happy ending. In fact the song was well known with very few changes in the lyrics for many years before MaGuire claimed copyright on it. It was first recorded by Joe Lynch in 1952 as "[The Whistling Gypsy](#)." A notable early recording was [The Whistling Gypsy](#) by Rose Brennan in 1953.

This song also goes under several names, even by the same group. The Clancy Brothers recorded it both as *The Whistling Gypsy* and *The Whistling Gypsy Rover*.

- [The Raggle Taggle Gypsy](#), Wikipedia
- [The Whistling Gypsy](#), Wikipedia
- [Roud 1](#)
- [Child 200](#)

# The Whistling Gypsy (Leo Maguire, 1951) (G)

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Whistling Gypsy by The Clancy Brothers (E)

**Intro** (Last line of first verse) C G C F C F

G D G D G D G D  
A gypsy rover came over the hill, down through the valley so sha-dy.  
G D G C  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
G D G C G C  
And he won the heart of a l -a-dy.

G  
D  
C  
G  
D  
C

**Chorus** ( Play after every verse )

G D G D G D G D  
Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-doo-dah-day. Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-day-dee  
G D G C  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
G D G C G C  
And he won the heart of a l -a-dy.

G D G D G D G D  
She left her father's castle gate. She left her own fine lo - ver.  
G D G C G D G C G C  
She left her servants and her state to follow her gypsy ro - ver.

G D G D G D G D  
She left behind her velvet gown and shoes of Spanish leath - er  
G D G C  
They whistled and they sang 'till the green woods rang  
G D G C G C  
As they rode off to-ge – ther.

G D G D G D G D  
Last night, she slept on a goose feather bed with silken sheets for co - ver  
G D G C G D G C G C  
Tonight she'll sleep on the cold, cold ground, beside her gypsy lo – ver.

G D G D G D G D  
Her father saddled up his fastest steed, and roamed the valley all o - ver.  
G D G C G D G C G C  
Sought his daughter at great speed, and the whistlin' gypsy ro - ver.

G D G D G D G D  
He came at last to a mansion fine down by the river Clay - dee.  
G D G C G D G C G C  
And there was music and there was wine for the gypsy and his la - dy.

**Chorus** ( Play after every verse )

G D G D G D G D  
Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-doo-dah-day. Ah-dee-doo-ah-dee-day-dee  
G D G C  
He whistled and he sang 'til the green woods rang  
G D G C G C  
And he won the heart of a l - a - dy.

G D G D G D G D  
"Have you forsaken your house and home? Have you forsaken your ba - by?  
G D G C G D G C G C  
Have you forsaken your husband dear, for a whistling gypsy ro - ver?"

G D G D G D G D  
"He is no gypsy, my Father," she cried, "but Lord of these lands all o - ver.  
G D G C G D G C G C  
And I shall stay 'til my dying day with my whistlin' gypsy ro - ver."

## Notes

"The Raggle Taggle Gypsy" is a very old folk song with numerous names. Hundreds of versions of the song survived in the oral tradition well into the twentieth century.

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