

Greensleeves

Improbable though it may seem, it has been proposed that the words to this most famous of English folk ballads were written by King Henry VIII during the 1500s for his future wife, Queen Consort, Anne Boleyn. However, a plethora of songs bearing references to such a woman appeared around this time; indeed, it seems an equally plausible interpretation is that Greensleeves was a woman of easy virtue.

Anon.
Words, possibly King Henry VIII (1491-1547)
arr. Mark Tanner

Elegantly, and at a measured pace ♩ = 110

mf

1. A - las, my love, — you
2. Your vows you've bro - ken,
3. I have been rea - dy
4. Ah Green - sleeves, now — fare -

p 5 4 3 1 2 1 *(p)*

Ped.

4

do me wrong, — to cast me off so dis - court - eous - ly. For
like my heart, — oh why did you — en - rap - ture me? Now
at your hand, — to grant what - e - ver you would crave. I
well, a - dieu, — to God I pray — to pros - per thee. For