

## **Carrickmannon Lake**

(From Jackie Boyce's book Songs of the County Down. Carrickmannon Lake is sung by Fiona Stewart and Sarah Anne O'Neill)

One evening for my pastime a ramble I did take  
Down by yon crystal fountain called Carrickmannon Lake  
Down by yon crystal fountain an image I did view  
Sure nature never could design an image quite like you

With courage bold undaunted I boldly then stepped forth  
Saying "My delightful charmer, you Venus of the North"  
Give me my way or else I'll slay my one and only joy  
And sure 'twould be a pity for to kill a harmless boy."

With flashing eyes and ne'er a sigh she coldly said to me  
"Young man depart for in my heart no place is decked for thee"  
And to my further pleading no answer would she make  
But turned away and left me there by Carrickmannon Lake

Killinchy is my dwelling place where first my breath I drew  
Drumreagh it is my parents' place, ten thousand times adieu  
All for your sake I'll passage take across the stormy sea  
A pilgrim there to do and dare in North Ameri-kee

Now all young men take warning and shun Killinchy fair  
Likewise sweet Carrickmannon for that false one lives there  
As the sun is slow declining o'er yonder hills so clear  
The shadow of her dwelling in the lake it does appear

Arranged by B.McVittie for the Mourne Community Choir