

# Over the Hills and Far Away

by George Farquhar, for his play *The Recruiting Officer* from 1706:

Our 'prentice Tom may now refuse  
To wipe his scoundrel Master's Shoes,  
For now he's free to sing and  
play Over the Hills and far away.

**Chorus:** *Over the Hills and O'er the Main, To Flanders, Portugal and Spain, The queen commands and we'll obey Over the Hills and far away.*

We all shall lead more happy lives  
By getting rid of brats and wives  
That scold and bawl both night and  
day - Over the Hills and far away.

[Chorus]

Courage, boys, 'tis one to ten,  
But we return all gentlemen  
All gentlemen as well as they,  
Over the hills and far away.

[Chorus]

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by John Gay's, in *The Beggar's Opera* from 1728:

*MacHeath:* Were I laid on Greenland's coast,  
And in my arms embrac'd my lass;  
Warm amidst eternal frost,  
Too soon the half year's night would pass.

**Chorus:** *And I would love you all the day. Ev'ry night would kiss and play, If with me you'd fondly stray Over the hills and far away.*

*Polly:* Were I sold on Indian soil,  
Soon as the burning day was clos'd,  
I could mock the sultry toil  
When on my charmer's breast repos'd.

[Chorus]

*Duet:* Were I laid on Greenland's coast,  
And in my arms embrac'd my lass;  
Warm amidst eternal frost,  
Too soon the half year's night would pass.

[Chorus]

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