



Angela Carter and Folk Music

These are the lyrics to one of the songs Angela Carter sang, accompanying herself on the concertina in 1967.

MARTHA THE FLOWER OF SWEET STRABANE

If I were king of Erin and had all things at my will,
I'd seek for recreation and comforts I'd seek still
The comforts that I'd seek for as you all may understand
Is to gain the heart of Martha the flower of sweet Strabane

I wish I had you Martha, away down by Innishowen
Or in some lonely valley in the wild woods of Tyrone
I would do my best endeavour and try to make a plan
To win the heart of Martha, the flower of sweet Strabane

Her cheeks they were a rosy red and her hair a lovely brown
And over her lily-white shoulders in ringlets they hang down
She's one of the fairest creatures in the whole Milesian clan
And my heart is captivated by the flower of sweet Strabane