

Don't Say One Thing And Mean Another - song lyrics

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Don't Say One Thing and Mean Another
Words by Chas. Swain. Music by W. Palmer.

The little lane, the greenwood lane
Where Mary dwelt was gay with singing;
For brook and bird, in many a strain,
Down vale and moor their notes were flinging.
But Mary's heart was deaf to song,
No longer she her tears could smother;
For she had learnt at last 'twas wrong,
To say one thing and mean another.

'Tis right, 'tis due, when hearts are true,
To show the heart without deceiving;
And not to speak in idle freak,
To try if one's the power of grieving.
In Mary's heart and Mary's mind
She loved one youth and loved no other;
But Mary's tongue was oft inclined
To say one thing and mean another.

Would all might see, how sweet 'twould be,
If truth alone their words directed;
How many a day might then be gay,
That passeth now in tears dejected.
Would all might learn and all discern,
That truth keeps longest, friend or brother;
Then maids be kind and speak your mind,
Nor say one thing and mean another