

Greenback Dollar (Clarence Ashley version)

Words & Music:
Unknown
(arr: Clarence Ashley (1933))

Many Thanks to the "Grateful Dead Lyric & Song Finder" page and its great discussion of this song for clearing up the discrepancies I kept finding between versions. There were two that I know of, with this preceeding the more famous Hoyt Axton-Ken Ramsey version. This version has is arranged by Scott Nygaard in the April 2006 issue of Acoustic Guitar.

 G C G
Once I loved a darling seaman and he thought the world of me.
[alt: Some folks say you love another and you care no more for me.]
 C G D G
'Til another girl persuaded; now, he cares no more for me.

CHORUS:

 G
I don't want your greenback dollar.
 C G
I don't want your watch and chain.
 C G
All I want is you, my darling.
 D G
Won't you take me back again?

Papa says we cannot marry, mama says you'll never do.
If you ever learn to love me, I will run away with you.

CHORUS:

Many an hour we spent together [alt: Many an hour with you I rambled]
Down beside the deep blue sea
If in your heart to love another, in my grave I'd rather be

CHORUS: [new words]

I don't want your greenback dollar, I don't want your watch and chain.
All I want is my 32/20, just to shoot out your dirty brain.