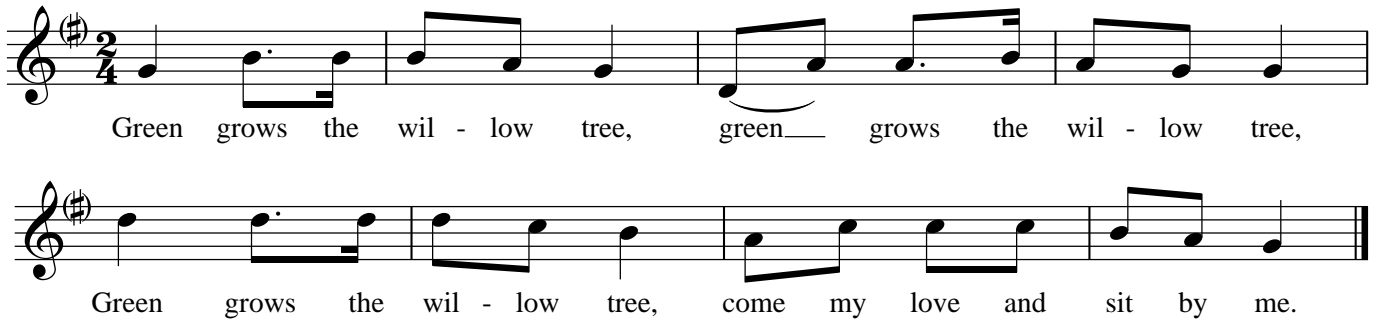


# Green Grows the Willow Tree

Informant/Performer:  
D.G. Watkins  
Blanche, NC

Source:  
Dan Patterson  
"A Sheaf of North Carolina Folk Songs"  
*North Carolina Folklore* IV (July 1956)



The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song 'Green Grows the Willow Tree'. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, 'Green grows the wil - low tree, green grows the wil - low tree,'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, 'Green grows the wil - low tree, come my love and sit by me.' The music is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

2. On the bank the rushes grow,  
On the bank the rushes grow,  
On the bank the rushes grow.  
Kiss your love and let her go.\*

\*Alternate text: Shake (his) her hand and let (him) her go.

## Game Directions

This song accompanied a game which was played as follows: Two chairs were set side by side facing in opposite directions. In one sat the person who was "it". All the other players joined hands in a ring around the chair and danced a twisting dance as they sang the first stanza. At the conclusion of the stanza, the "it" chose a partner from the dancers, who thereupon sat in the vacated chair. The dancers began circling again, singing the second stanza, at the end of which the "it" kissed his partner and rejoined the dancers in a circle. The first stanza was then sung again, and the song was repeated as long as was desirable.