АХ, САМАРА-ГОРОДОК AKH SAMARA GORODOK AH, SAMARA TOWN

According to some, this is a folk song, according to others it was written by Andrei Kostin, a teacher of Roza Baglanova – a Soviet/Kazakh soprano opera and pop music singer (1922 – 2011). Specialists in Samara folklore claim that the song was born from the Volga comic refrains, which was usually performed to the bayan by the townspeople on street festivities, during feasts. Yet others claim that it was composed at the beginning of the 20th century, during the years of New Economic Policy under Lenin, when urban song folklore was actively developing. The former choirmaster of the Volga folk choir claimed that the song had many versions, one of which was sung by the Volga fishermen.

1 Платок тонет и не тонет, Потихонечку плывет, - Милый любит и не любит, Только времечко ведет.

Ах, Самара-городок, Беспокойная я, Беспокойная я, - Успокой ты меня!

- 2 Я росла и расцветала До семнадцати годов, А с семнадцати годов Крушит девушку любовь.
- 3 Милый спрашивал любови, Я не знала, что сказать, Молода, любви не знала, Ну и жалко отказать.
- 4 Понапрасну небо ясно, Одна звездочка горит, Понапрасну милых много, -Об одном сердце болит.

1 Platok tonit i ni tonit, Patikhonichku plyv'ot,-Milyi l'ubit i ni l'ubit, Tol'ka vr'emichka vid'ot.

Akh, Samara-garadok, Bispakoynaja ya, Bispakoynaja ya, Uspakoy ty min'a!

- 2 Ya rasla i rastsitala Da simnatsati gadof, A s simnatsati gadof Krushit d'evushku l'ubof'.
- 3. Milyi sprashival l'ubovi, Ya ni znala, shto skazat', Malada, l'ubvi ni znala, Nu i zhalka atkazat'.
- 4 Panaprasnu n'eba yasna, Adna zv'ozdachka garit, Panaprasnu milykh mnoga,-Ab adnom s'ertse balit.

My handkerchief sinks or floats, then slowly floats, -Does he love me or not, Or just wasting time.

Ah, Samara- town I am restless, I am restless Can you calm me?

I grew up and blossomed At seventeen years old, At seventeen years old Love torments a girl.

My darling asked for love, I didn't know what to say, I am young, I don't know love Thought it would be a shame to refuse.

In vain the sky is clear, Yet only one star burns All of them are wasted I only have a heart for him.

