

Kingston Trio "South Coast"

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Chorus:

South Coast, the wild coast, is lonely. You may win at
the game at Jolon,
But the lion still rules the barranca, and a man there is
always alone.

My name is Juan Hano de Castro. The son of a Spanish
grandee,
But I won my wife in a card game, to Hell with the lords
o'er the Sea.

I picked up the ace. I had won her! My heart, which was
down at my feet
Jumped up to my throat in a hurry- Like a warm
summers' day, she was sweet.
(Chorus)

Her arms had to tighten around me as we rode up the
hills from the South.
Not a word did I hear from her that day- or a kiss from
her pretty red mouth.

We came to my cabin at twilight. The stars twinkled out
on the coast.
She soon loved the valley- the orchard- but I knew that
she loved me the most.
(Chorus)

Then I got hurt in a landslide with crushed hip and
twice-broken bone.
She saddled our pony like lightning- rode off in the
night, all alone.

The lion screamed in the barranca; the pony fell back
on the slide.
My young wife lay dead in the moonlight. My heart died
that night with my
Bride.
(Chorus)

Daughters were possessions, to be bet away or
arranged marriages for; also, note
The use of "young wife" in the final stanza. Her

shyness- "had to tighten"-
And her silent reticence but adaptable "soon loved..."
indicates no previous
Marriage,
And "lost his daughter to me" indicates her origin,
whereas "to hell with
The lords o'er the sea" seems thrown in. If this man
were a sailor, why would
He have established orchards?

Just a thought. I'd really like to see the original music if
it were available.

The concept of betting away a daughter was my first
exposure to the concept of

Women as property and the song stuck with me my
whole life. (I was the oldest

And

Only daughter and I was afraid of the possibility; I was
9 and the chorus,

Except

For one word, and the storyline, and the tune have
stayed with me for the last

25 years; it influenced my major "women's studies")

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