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dum·ka  (d m kə)

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n. pl. **dum·ky**(-kē) also **dum·kas**

1. A Slavic folk song that alternates in mood between liveliness and melancholy.
2. An instrumental composition or movement imitative of such a folk song.

[Ultimately (via Czech, since the *dumka* was popularized as a form in classical music principally by Antonín Dvořák) from Ukrainian *dumka*, diminutive of *duma*, thought, memory, melancholy narrative poem or ballad, of Germanic origin; see **dhē-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

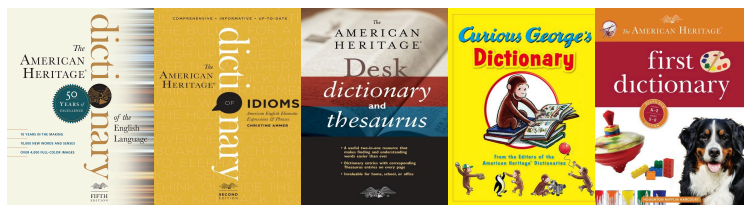
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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