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bal·lad  (băl əd)

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n.

1.

a. A narrative poem, often of folk origin and intended to be sung, consisting of simple stanzas and usually having a refrain.

b. The music for such a poem.

2. A popular song especially of a romantic or sentimental nature.

[Middle English *balade*, poem or song in stanza form, from Old French *ballade*, from Old Provençal *balada*, song sung while dancing, from *balar*, to dance, from Late Latin *ballāre*, to dance; see [BALL](#).².]

bal·lad ic (bə-lăd ɪk, bă-) *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

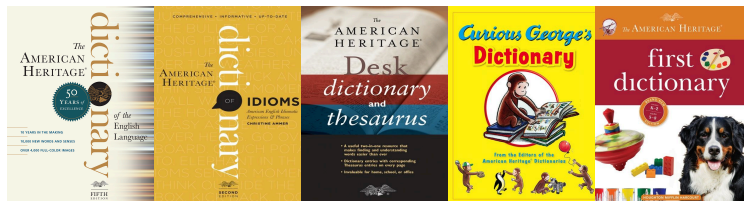
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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