

**ENGLISH DICTION IN  
SONG AND SPEECH:  
A TEXT BOOK FOR  
SINGERS AND SPEAKERS**

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English Diction in Song and Speech: A Text Book for Singers and Speakers by Clara Kathleen Rogers

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*English Diction*

# *English Diction*

*In Song and Speech*

*A Text Book for Singers and Speakers*

BY

CLARA KATHLEEN ROGERS

(CLARA DORIA)

AUTHOR OF "THE PHILOSOPHY OF SINGING"  
AND "MY VOICE AND I"

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*He who cares, dares.*

*"Sow an act, reap a habit;  
Sow a habit, reap a character;  
Sow a character, reap a destiny."*

*It is not the ignorant or indifferent  
who retard progress; it is the fickle-  
minded who do not follow up the  
teachings that have impressed them.  
These are the real enemies of both  
Art and Science.*





## PREFACE

**I**N writing this brief treatise on "English Diction for Singers" I have aimed at making it as comprehensive and as simple as possible, for I hold that in a textbook for practical use no words should be wasted. I have purposely resisted the temptation to offer arguments to sustain my statements except where necessary to make clear unfamiliar laws. I have preferred to allow the laws to demonstrate their own excuse for being when tested by the student himself in following them. I am convinced that anyone can prove to himself the soundness of these laws provided he will take the trouble to follow the directions and practise the exercises. Students who are either not sufficiently intelligent or sufficiently in earnest to do this would hardly be likely to profit by my explanations.

In view of the fact that some of the principles laid down will present themselves as new, for the reason that they have never yet been applied in the same way, it may be well to assure my readers that all of my statements are in accord with the highest authorities on both the science of speech and of vocal physiology.

Some of the important works to which I am indebted and from which I have from time to time quoted are "Essays and Postscripts on Elocution," by Alexander Melville Bell; "Speech in Song," by Alexander J. Ellis; "Manual of Physical and Vocal Training," by Lewis B. Monroe; "Our Mother Tongue," by Theodore H. Mead; Manual by Jonathan Barber; and "The Art of Singing," by M. Watts Hughes. From these I have also borrowed sundry tabulations of words, examples, etc.

CLARA KATHLEEN ROGERS.

309 BEACON STREET, BOSTON  
August, 1912



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