

# Tom Lehrer, N Apostrophe T

"(Scene: Outside the cave of a very grouchy hermit "(H)". A very sweet child "(C)" coming along)"

(C): Isn't it a lovely day?

(H): No, it isn't!

(C): Could you come outside and play?

(H): No, I couldn't!

(C): Did you ever take a hike?

(H): No, I didn't!

(C): How'd you like to ride my bike?

(H): Frankly, I wouldn't!

(C): Isn't, couldn't, didn't, wouldn't.

Is that all you can say?

(H): Isn't, couldn't, didn't, wouldn't - Yes, now go away.

The sweetest sound to me.

It stands for not,

I like it a lot.

It's spelled n-apostrophe-t.

(C): Have you ever tried to smile?

(H): No, I haven't!

(C): Won't you try it for a while?

(H): No, I won't!

(C): Are there games to play in there?

(H): No, there aren't!

(C): Then why d'you like to stay in there?

(H): Frankly, I don't!

(C): Haven't, won't, aren't, don't.

Is that all you can say?

(H): Haven't, won't, aren't, don't - And I said, Go away.

Grouches all agree.

We get a glow

From saying no

With n-apostrophe-t.

(C): Do you talk to anyone?

(H): "(wistfully)" No, I don't!

(C): Come on out and have some fun.

(H): "(hesitantly)" No, I couldn't!

(C): Can't you even tell me why?

(H): "(apologetically)" No, I can't!

(C): Will it kill you just to try?

(H): "(wanting to)" "Well, I shouldn't

(C): Don't, couldn't, can't, shouldn't.

Now, try it once "my" way.

(C): Do?

(H): Do

(C): Could?

(H): Could

(C): Can?

(H): Can

(C): Should.

(H): Should! Hey, that feels okay!

(C): So come along with me...

(H): I'll give it a try.

And say goodbye

To n-apostrophe,

(C): N-apostrophe,

(C,H):N-apostrophe-t!