

Snakes

Words & Music by Peter Jenkyns

Of all the living creatures in the world of land and sea,
The snake is seldom popular as a pet for you and me.
A slow-worm or a grass snake could become a kind of friend,
But bigger ones or fatter ones you could hardly recommend.

The handsome boa constrictor has a grip that's very strong,
The animals it squeezes do not last for very long;
The reticulated python has habits much the same,
There's over thirty feet of him to help his little game.

In India the cobra rears up his hooded head,
Its fangs are full of venom and its victims are soon dead;
An Indian snake charmer has a dangerous pursuit –
He hypnotises cobras with a tune upon his flute.

The vipers and the adders and the anaconda too,
The rattlesnakes and mambas can be seen in any zoo.
They say a juicy rattlesnake is rather good to eat,
But most of us will go through life without that kind of treat.