

Worksheet 2 – Rye Whiskey

Student Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Below is a transcription of “Jack O’ Diamonds” performed by Jules Allen in 1928. Briefly read the lyrics. Now listen to the Tex Ritter interview. Note the changes that you hear in the song and write your impressions in the space provided.

Jules Allen (April 21, 1928)	Tex Ritter: Interview and Singing Rye Whiskey
<p>O Molly, O Molly, it's for your sake alone That I leave my old parents, my house and my home That I leave my old parents you caused me to roam I'm a rebel soldier and Dixie's my home</p> <p>Jack O' Diamonds, Jack O' Diamonds, I know you of old You've robbed my poor pockets of silver and gold Whiskey you villain, you've been my downfall You've kicked me, you've cuffed me, but I love you for all</p> <p>Her parents don't like me; they say I'm too poor They say I'm unworthy to enter her door They say I drink whiskey, my money's my own And them that don't like me can leave me alone</p> <p>I'll eat when I'm hungry, I'll drink when I'm dry And when I get thirsty, I'll lay down and cry Beefsteak when I'm hungry and whiskey when I'm dry Greenbacks when I'm hard up and heaven when I die</p> <p>Rye whiskey, rye whiskey, rye whiskey, I cry If I don't get rye whiskey, I surely will die O baby, O baby, I've told you before Do make me a pallet, I'll lay on the floor</p> <p>I'll build me a castle on yonder mountain high Where my true love can see me when she comes ridin' by Where my true love can see me and help me to mourn I'm a rebel soldier and Dixie's my home</p> <p>I'll get up in my saddle, my quirt in my hand And I'll think of you Molly when in some distant land I'll think of you Molly, you caused me to roam I'm a rebel soldier and Dixie's my home</p>	

Benton's *The Source of Country Music*

If the ocean was whiskey and I was a duck
I'd dive to the bottom to get one sweet sup
But the ocean ain't whiskey, and I ain't a duck
So I'll play Jack O' Diamonds and try to change my
luck

O baby, O baby, I've told you before
Do make me a pallet; I'll lay on the floor

I've rambled and gambled all my money away
But it's with the rebel army, O Molly, I'll stay
It is with the rebel army, O Molly, I must roam
For I'm a rebel soldier and Dixie's my home

Jack O' Diamonds, Jack O' Diamonds, I know you of
old
You've robbed my poor pockets of silver and gold
Rye whiskey, rye whiskey, rye whiskey, I cry
If you don't give me rye whiskey, I'll lay down and die

O Baby, O Baby, I've told you before
Do make me a shakedown, I'll lay on the floor