Barbara Allen



In Reading town, there I was born, In Scotland was my dwelling; O, there I courted a pretty fair maid -Her name was Barbara Allen.

I courted her for months and years, Thinking that I should gain her; And I oft times vowed and did declare No other man should have her.

I sent a man to yonder town, To ask for Barbara Allen. Saying "You must come to my master's house, If your name be Barbara Allen." So slowly she put on her clothes, So slowly she came to him; And when she got to his bedside, "Young man," she said, "You're dying."

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If you look under my pillow You'll find a napkin lying, And it is soaked with my heart's blood, For the love of Barbara Allen.

He put his hand right out of bed, Thinking to draw her nigh him; But she whipped her heels and away she ran, Straightway from him she flew.

So he turned his face unto the wall, And death came slowly to him; "Adieu, adieu to all my frends, Farewell to Barbara Allen."

As she was walking across yon fields She heard his death-bell tolling And every toll it seemed to say -Hard-hearted Barbara Allen.

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"O dear mother, make my bed, And make it fit to die on; There's a young man died for me to-day And I'll die for him to-morrow."

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And he did die on one good day, And she did die on the morrow; O, he did die for the love of her, And she did die for sorrow.