

# Matty Groves

Doc Watson

Was on the high high holy day  
The very best day in the year  
Little Matty Groves had gone to church  
Holy words for to hear  
Holy words for to hear  
The first to come down was dressed in red  
And the second one dressed in green  
The third to come down was Lord Daniel's wife  
As fair as any queen  
Just as fair as any queen  
Then Matty Groves says to one of his men  
"See the fair one dressed in white?  
Although she is Lord Daniel's wife  
I'll be with her tonight  
I'll be with her tonight."  
Well the little foot page was standing by  
And heard every word that was said  
He says "Lord Daniel shall know tonight  
Before I go to bed  
Before I go to bed."  
He had 15 miles for to go that night  
And 10 of them he run  
He run til he come to the broke down bridge  
Then he bent to his breast and swum  
He bent to his breast and swum  
He swum til he come to where the grass was green  
He took to his feet and he run  
He run til he come to Lord Daniel's Gate  
Then he rattled at the bells and they rung  
He rattled at the bells and they rung  
"What news? What news?" Lord Daniel says  
"What news to me have you brung?"  
"Little Matty Groves is in the bed with your wife  
And their hearts both beat as one  
And their hearts both beat as one."  
"Now if the truth you've told to me  
A rich man you shall be  
But if a lie you've told to me  
I'll hang you to a tree  
I'll hang you to a tree."  
He gathered him up about 50 good men  
He done it with a free good will  
Then he popped his bugle unto his lips  
And he blowed it loud and shrill  
He blowed it loud and shrill  
"I'd better get up," said little Matty Groves  
"I'd better get up and go

I know your husband is a coming home  
For I heard his bugle blow  
I heard his bugle blow."  
"Lay down, lay down, my precious one  
Lay down and go to sleep  
It's only my father's shepherd's horn  
And he's a calling for his sheep  
He's a calling for his sheep."  
So they laid down together again

And they soon were fast asleep  
And when they awoke it was broad daylight  
Lord Daniel at their feet  
Lord Daniel at their feet  
"Get up from there your naked man  
And put you on some clothes  
I never intend for to have it said  
That a naked man I slow  
That a naked man I slow."  
"Oh give me a chance," said little Matty Groves  
"A chance to fight for my life  
For there you have two very fine swords  
And me not as much as a knife  
And me not as much as a knife."  
"Oh yes I have two very fine swords  
And they cost me deep in the purse  
You may have the finest one  
And I will take the worst  
Yes I will take the worst."  
Then Matty Groves struck the very first lick  
And he wounded Lord Daniel sore  
Lord Daniel struck the very next lick  
And he drove Matty Groves to the floor  
He drove Matty Groves to the floor  
Then he taken his lady by the hand  
And he sat her on his knee  
And he says, "Now which do you love the best?  
Little Matty Groves or me?  
Little Matty Groves or me?"  
"Very well I like your rosy cheeks  
Very well I like your chin  
But better I love little Matty Groves  
Than you and all of your kin  
Than you and all of your kin  
"You can dig my grave on a pretty green hill  
Dig it wide and deep  
And put little Matty Groves in my arms  
Lord Daniel at my feet  
Lord Daniel at my feet."