

Barbara Allen

Cosmo Sheldrake

It was the merry month of May
And the green buds, they were swellin'
Sweet William, he was in the west country
When he saw that Barby Allen

Well, he sent his servant down to her
In the place where she was dwellin'
Saying 'my master bids you join him nigh
If your name be Barby Allen'

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And slowly, slowly got she up,
And slowly when she joined him
And as she [?]
She said, 'young man, I think you're dying'
And slowly, slowly got she up
And slowly when she joined him
And as she walked by his face
She said, 'young man, I think you're dying'

While the church bells, they were tolling
And each bell it seemed to say as it tolled
'Hard hearted, Barby Allen'

Mother, father, make my bed
And make it long and narrow
Well sweet William, he died for me today
I'll die for him tomorrow

Well they buried Barbara in the old churchyard
And they buried sweet William beside her
And out of his grave, grew a red rose
And out of hers, a briar

Well they grew, and they grew
Up the old church yard
Til they could grow no higher
And at the top
A lover's knot
The red rose and the briar
The red rose and the briar