

Sir James The Rose

Steeleye Span

Oh have you heard Sir James the Rose,
The young heir of Loch Laggan,
For he has killed a gallant squire
And his friends are out to take him.

He's gone to the House of Marr
The Nurse there did befriend him,
And he has gone upon his knees
And begged for her to hide him.

``Where're you going Sir James?'' she said
``Where now are you riding?''
``Oh I am bound for a foreign land,
But now I'm under hiding.''

Chorus :
Where shall I go?
Where shall I run?
Where shall I go for to hide me?
For I have killed a gallant squire
And they're seeking for to slay me

Then he's turned him right and round about
And rolled him in the bracken,
And he has gone to take a sleep
In the lowlands of Loch Laggan.

He had not well gone out of sight
Nor was he past Milstrethen
When four and twenty belted knights
Came riding o'er the leathen.

``Oh have you seen Sir James the Rose,
The young heir of Loch Laggan,
For he has killed a gallant squire,
And we're sent out to take him.''

Chorus

``You'll see the bank above the mill
In the lowlands of Loch Laggan,
And there you'll find Sir James the Rose
Sleeping in the bracken.''

``You must not wake him out of sleep,
Nor yet must you afright him,
Just run a dart right through his heart,
And through the body pierce him.''

They sought the bank above the mill
In the lowlands of Loch Laggan,
And there they found Sir James the Rose
Sleeping in the bracken.

Chorus

Then up and spake Sir John the Graeme

Who had the charge a-keeping,
``It'll never be said, dear gentleman,
We killed him while he's sleeping.''

They seized his broadsword and his targe
And closely him surrounded,
And when he woke out of his sleep
His senses were confounded.

Now they have taken out his heart
And stuck it on a spear
They took it to the House of Marr,
And gave it to his dear.

Chorus