

Barbara Allen

Traditional



1. In Scar - let Town, where I was born,
2. All in the mer - ry month of May,
3. He sent his man un - to her then,
4. So slow - ly slow - ly she came up,
5. He turn'd his face un - to the wall,



There was a fair maid dwell - in',
When green buds they were swell - in',
To the town where she was dwell - in',
And slow - ly she came nigh him;
As dead - ly pangs he fell in;



Made ev' - ry youth cry "Well - a - day",
Young Jem - my Grove on his death - bed lay,
'You must come to my mas - ter dear,
And all she said, when there she came,
A - dieu! a - dieu! a - dieu to all,



Her name was Bar - b'ra Al - len.
For love of Bar - b'ra Al - len.
If your name be Bar - b'ra Al - len.'
'Young man, I think you're dy - in'
A - dieu to Bar - b'ra Al - len!'

- 6 When he was dead, and laid in grave,
Her heart was struck with sorrow;
“O mother, mother, make my bed,
For I shall die to-morrow!”
- 7 She, on her death-bed, as she lay,
Begg’d to be buried by him,
And sore repented of the day
That she did e’er deny him.
- 8 “Farewell”, she said, “ye virgins all,
And shun the fault I fell in;
Henceforth take warning by the fall
Of cruel Barb’ra Allen.”
- 9 Barb’ra was buried in one grave
And Jemmy close beside her,
And out of his heart grew a red, red rose,
And out of hers a briar.
- 10 They grew and grew to the steeple top,
Till they could grow no higher,
And there they twined in a true lover’s knot,
The red rose round the briar.

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1

In Scarlet Town*,
where I was born,
There was a fair maid dwellin',
Made ev'ry youth cry "Well-a-day",
Her name was Barb'ra Allen.

mündlich überliefert

In Reading,
wo ich geboren wurde,
da wohnte einst ein schönes Mädchen,
das jeden Jüngling „ach“ seufzen ließ,
ihr Name war Barbara Allen.

2

All in the merry month of May,
When green buds
they were swellin',
Young Jemmy Grove
on his death-bed lay,
For love of Barb'ra Allen.

Es war im schönen Monat Mai,
als die grünen Knospen
zu schwellen begannen,
(als der) junge Jemmy Grove
auf seinem Totenbett lag,
aus Liebe zu Barbara Allen.

3

He sent his man unto her then,
To the town where she was dwellin',
'You must
come to my master dear,
If your name be Barb'ra Allen.'

Er sandte dann seinen Diener hin zu ihr,
in die Stadt, wo sie wohnte,
„Ihr müsst
zu meinem lieben Herrn kommen,
wenn eurer Name Barbara Allen ist.“

4

So slowly, slowly she came up,
And slowly she came nigh him;
And all she said,
when there she came, -
"Young man,
I think you're dying."

Ganz langsam ging sie hin,
und ganz langsam näherte sie sich ihm;
Und alles, was sie sagte,
als sie dahin kam, (war) -
„Junger Mann,
ich glaube, ihr liegt im Sterben.“

5

He turn'd his face unto the wall,
As deadly pangs he fell in;
'Adieu! adieu! adieu to all, -
Adieu to Barb'ra Allen!'

Er drehte sein Gesicht hin zur Wand,
als er die Todesqualen spürte,
„Ade! Ade! Ade an alle, -
ade an Barbara Allen!“

6

When he was dead, and laid in grave,
Her heart was struck with sorrow;
'O mother, mother, make my bed,
For I shall die to-morrow!'

Als er tot und ins Grab gelegt war,
da füllte sich ihr Herz mit Kummer;
„O Mutter, Mutter, richte mein Bett,
da ich morgen sterben werde!“

7

She, on her death-bed, as she lay,
Begg'd
to be buried by him,
And sore repented of the day
That she did e'er deny him.

8

'Farewell', she said,
'ye virgins all,
And shun the fault
I fell in;
Henceforth
take warning by
the fall
Of cruel Barb'ra Allen.'

9

Barb'ra was buried in one grave
And Jemmy close beside her,
And out of his heart
grew a red, red rose,
And out of hers a briar.

10

They grew and grew
to the steeple top,
Till they could grow no higher,

And there they twined
in a true lover's knot,
The red rose round the briar.

Als sie auf ihrem Totenbett lag,
bat sie,
neben ihm begraben zu werden,
und bereute sehr den Tag,
als sie ihn abgewiesen hatte.

„Lebt wohl“, sagte sie,
„all ihr Jungfrauen,
und hütet euch vor dem Fehler,
den ich begangen habe;
von nun an
lasst euch zur Warnung dienen
das Ende
von der grausamen Barbara Allen.“

Barbara wurde in ein Grab gelegt
und Jemmy nahe bei ihr,
und aus seinem Herzen
wuchs eine rote Rose,
und aus ihrem ein Dornbusch.

Sie (beide) wuchsen
bis an die Kirchturmspitze,
bis sie nicht höher wachsen
[konnten],
und dort umschlangen sie sich
zu einem Liebesknoten,
die rote Rose um den Dornbusch.

* Scarlet Town = Reading Stadtgrafschaft und Hauptstadt der engl.
Grafschaft Berkshire, am Kennet, nahe seiner Mündung in die Themse

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