

The Cherry Tree Carol

Now Joseph was an old man, an old old man was he
He courted lovely Mary, He courted lovely Mary
He courted her for all men to see

As they went out a-walking, all through an orchard fair
The trees were full of cherries, The trees were full of cherries
The trees were full of cherries so rare.

The Mary spoke to Joseph, so meek and mild said she:
'Climb up and gather cherries, Climb up and gather cherries
Climb up and gather cherries for me'.

Old Joseph flew in anger, an angry man was he
'The father of thy baby, The father of thy baby
Let him gather cherries for thee'.

Then Mary's son, our Saviour, from Mary's heart spoke he
'Bow down before my mother, Bow down before my mother
Bow down before my mother, cherry tree'.

The cherry drooped its branches, down low at Mary's feet,
And Mary gathered cherries, And Mary gathered cherries
And Mary gathered cherries so sweet.

Then Joseph said in terror, 'My wrong is great I see
Oh share your holy secret, Oh share your holy secret
Oh share your holy secret with me'.

Then said the blessed Mary, 'This secret I will share
In stable soon the Christ Child, In stable soon the Christ Child
In stable soon the Christ Child I will bear'.

