

The Wonderful Sucking Pig

Collected by Gardiner from Alfred Stride, Dibden, Hants. June 1907

*Words slightly revised and chorus added SM Feb 2005
(original words in Marrowbones)*

You all have heard of the Christmas Goose and the walloping Great Pie
But I think to myself it's not much use to tell such a precious lie
But I'll tell you of a wonder new, as true as I'm a sinner
About a wonderful sucking pig we had for Christmas dinner.

Chorus

So come on all both great and small and listen to my lay
As I tell you of the sucking pig we ate on Christmas Day!

The very first day this pig was born he cut some cunning capers –
He swallowed a field of turnip tops and forty ton of taters.
So then they pulled out all his teeth but it only made him snarly,
And he bolted a wagon load of swedes and a stack of oats and barley.

This sucking pug he grew so fat, you might think it a lark,
But when he was only three weeks old he was big as Noah's Ark.
His leg was like a greasy pole with a ton of bristles on it
And his curly tail when pulled out straight was longer than a comet.

To kill this wonderful sucking pig it took no end of trying,
And strike me down if I tell a lie, he was seventy years a-dying.
The men who had his leg for lunch, up to Hyde Park they took it
And they had to boil the Serpentine before that they could cook it.

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Chorus twice