

The False Bride

1. When I saw my love, to the church_ go, With her brides-maids and
bride-groom she cut a fine show. And_ I fol - lowed af - ter with my
heart full of woe. To see _ how my false love was guar - ded. And _
I fol - lowed af - - ter with my heart full of woe. To see _ how my
false love was guar - - ded. _____

2. I courted a young girl for several years,
I courted a young girl to make her my dear;
But now she's gone from me and showed me false play,
She's gone to get tied to another.

3. The first time I saw my love in the church stand,
With a ring on her finger and a glove on her hand;
And the man who stood by her had houses and land,
But I never once mentioned to have her.

4. The next time I saw my love dressed up in white,
She'd bridesgrooms and bridesmaids to give her away;
I thought her sweet company was better than mine,
Although she was tied to another.

5. The parson that married her with a loud cry,
"Is there any false bedders I'll have them brought nigh?"
I thought in my heart I'd a once right to die,
I thought in my heart to false bed her.

6. When I got home I sat myself down,
When I sat down nothing could I eat,
I thought her sweet company was better than mine,
Although she was tied to another.

Source: Sung by Henry Thomas (76), Chipping Sodbury. Collected by Cecil Sharp on 2nd April 1907.
Sharp collected one verse only. Further verses from Danny Brazil at Over, collected by Peter Shephard, 12 May 1966.