

Shot like a Bird on the Tree

Her fa - - ther he came for to hear it _____
Straight - - way to his dau - - ghter did go _____
Dear daugh - - ter I hear you've been court - - ing _____
To a man that is 'low your de - - gree _____

Tune for verses 2 - 5

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the tune of verses 2-5. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, ending with a half note. The second staff continues the melody with similar rhythmic patterns, also ending with a half note.

2. 'Who's been telling of those false tales dearest Father?
Who's been telling of those false tales on me?
My intention is never to get married
To a man that is 'low my agree.'
3. They sent for young Willie to vide it,
And to vide it young Jimmy he came.
And he creep-ed upstairs in his stockings
Just to hear what they all had to say.
4. 'Dear daughter, I'll give you two chooses,
And two chooses I'll give unto thee.
Would you rather send Willie a-sailing,
Or to see him shot like a bird on the tree?'
5. 'Dear Father, you've give me two chooses,
And two chooses you've give unto me.
I would rather send Jimmy a-sailing
Than see him shot like a bird on the tree.'

Source: Danny Brazil at Staverton, 5th March 1978, collected by Gwilym Davies