

The Holly And The Ivy

The holl - y and the iv - - y When they are both full grown Of
all the trees that's in the wood The holl - - y bears the crown.

1. The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown
Of all the trees that's in the wood. the holly bears the crown.

Chorus:

The rising of the sun, the running of the deer
The playing of the merry organ, sweet music in the choir.

2. The holly bears a berry as red as any blood
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas Day in the morn.
3. The holly bears a blossom, as white as the lily flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet saviour.
4. The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn.
5. The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.

Source: Charley Williams, Bream, Forest of Dean. Collected by Bob Patten and Andrew Taylor, 19 November 1977. Mr Williams only sang 2 verses and the chorus. Remaining verses are from another version