

Can I Sleep in Your Barn Tonight, Mister?



It was on one dark night, it was stor-my _____ A tramp came a - long through the rain;
He was tram-ping a - long to some sta-tion, _____ To catch him a long dis-tance train.

2. Can I sleep in your barn tonight Mister?
It is cold sleeping out upon the ground;
For the cold North wind is a-whistling
And I have me no place to lie down.
3. For I have no tobacco or matches,
And I'm sure I won't do you no harm
For I'll tell you my long distance story
It runs though my heart like a song
4. It was three years ago last summer
And I'll never forget that's the day
When a stranger came out of the city
And told me he wanted to say
5. As I'm coming home from my work-yard
A-whistling and singing with joy
For I expect a kind hearted welcome
From my dear loving wife and my boy.
6. But what did I find but a letter,
It was placed in the room on the shelf
For the moment my eyes fell upon it
I picked it straight up in my hand.
7. And what did it say in the letter?
For it told me my wife she had gone
Oh I wondered if Lord up in heaven
Only knew what that stranger had done.

Source: Joan Taylor, Gloucester. Recorded by Gwilym Davies 11 March 1997.