

## The Ball of Yarn

1. Now it was on a su- mmer's day, in the me - rry month of May, I was  
stro - lling round my grand - fa - - ther's farm. When a  
count-ry maid I spied and un- to her I sighed "May I wind up your li- ttle ball of yarn?"

Variants:  
(a) (b) (b) (b) (c)

2. "Oh no, kind sir" said she, "You're a stranger unto me  
And you may love another, so be true."  
I said, "My pretty miss, you're the only one I want to kiss,  
And to wind up your little ball of yarn."
3. Well I took the country maid and I laid her in the shade  
Not intending to do her any harm.  
And 'twas much to my surprise when I lay between her thighs  
And wound up her little ball of yarn.
4. Now when the maid arose, after pulling up her clothes  
She went to tell the people at the farm.  
So I slipped across the green, not intending to be seen,  
After winding up her little ball of yarn.
5. Now it was twelve months to the day, I was strolling down that way,  
Met a maid with a babe under her arm.  
I said, "My little miss, sure I never thought of this  
When I wound up your little ball of yarn."
6. So all you country maids take a warning from these days  
And never go a-strolling round the farm.  
'Cause the blackbird and the thrush they still whistle in the bush,  
When he's winding up your little ball of yarn.

Source: Sung by Ray Hartland, Tirley. Collected by Gwilym Davies 9 December 1978